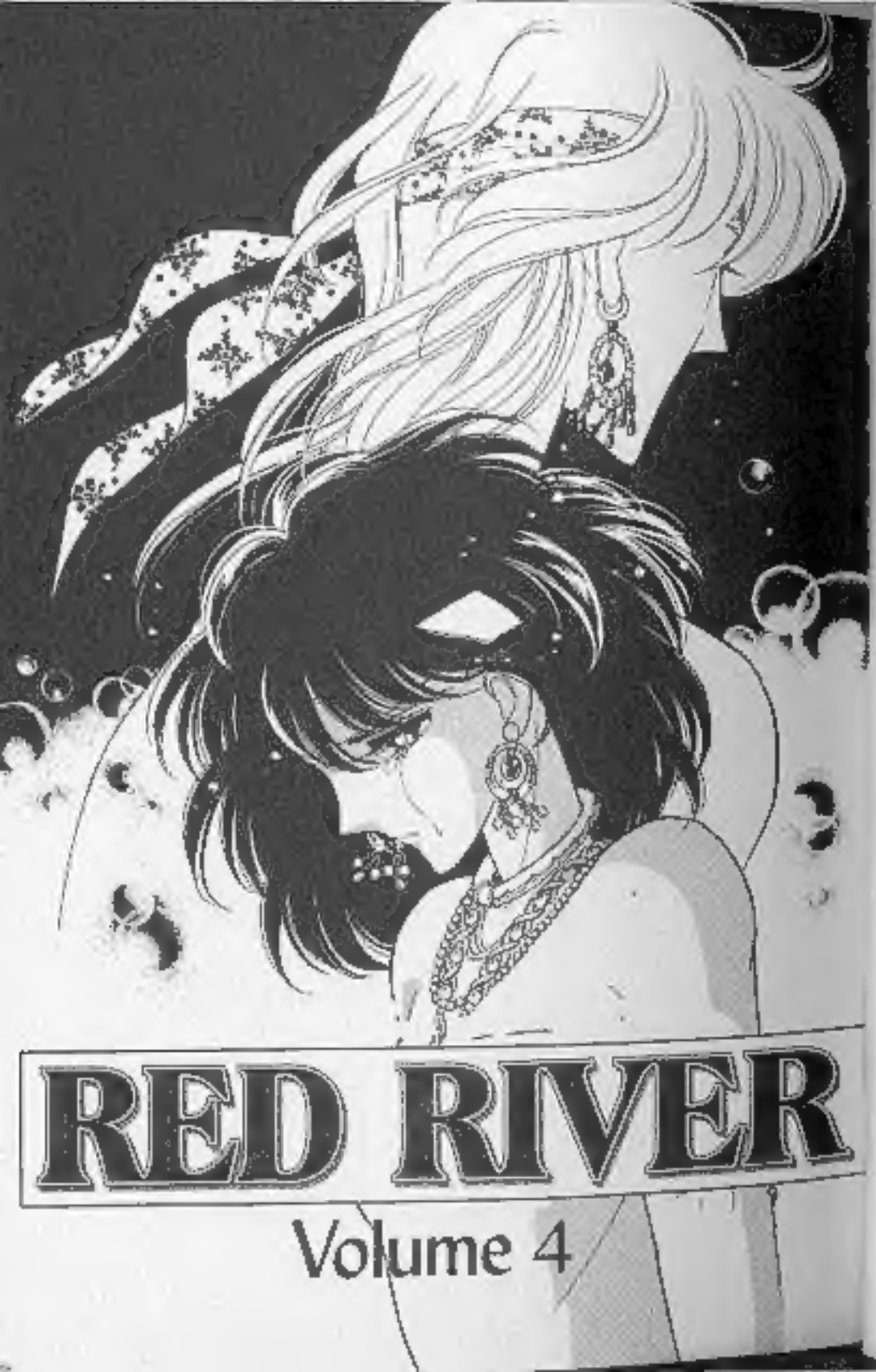


RED RIVER

VOL. 4

STORY AND ART BY CHIE SHINOHARA

English Adaptation/Lance Caselman
Translation/Yuko Sawada
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Mark McMurray
Cover Design & Graphic Layout/Izumi Evers
Editor/Megan Bates

Managing Editor/Annette Roman
Director of Production/Noboru Watanabe
Editorial Director/Alvin Lu
Sr. Director of Licensing & Acquisitions/Rika Inouye
Vice President of Sales & Marketing/Liza Coppola
Executive Vice President/Hyoe Narita
Publisher/Seiji Horibuchi

© 2005 Chie Shinohara/Shogakukan, Inc. First published by Shogakukan, Inc. in Japan as "Soya wa Akai Kawa no Hotori."
New and adapted artwork and text © 2006 VIZ, LLC
The RED RIVER logo is a trademark of VIZ, LLC. All rights reserved.
The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional. No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

Printed in the U.S.A.

Published by VIZ, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

Shōjo Edition

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, December 2006

www.viz.com store.viz.com

Story Thus Far:

Prince Kail
The third prince of the Hittite Empire, and a priest with magical powers, Prince Kail has begun to develop feelings for Yuri.

Yuri
She was an ordinary 9th grader until she was mysteriously transported to the ancient Hittite Empire.

Queen Nakia
A priestess who wants to sacrifice Yuri to the Storm God in order to ensure her son's succession to the throne.

Yuri was an ordinary junior high student until the day she was sucked into a puddle on the street and emerged in the ancient Hittite Empire! Evil Queen Nakia had used her magic to draw Yuri across time and space as a sacrifice. Rescued by the handsome but arrogant Prince Kail, Yuri is taken to live in his palace as his concubine. All she wants is to return to her home, but that can only happen if three conditions are met: she must have the help of a sorceror equal to the queen—which Prince Kail turns out to be; all seven of Hattusa's springs must fill with water; and Yuri must wear the clothes she had on when she was kidnapped.

Yuri steals into the queen's palace with Kail's young servant, Tito, to retrieve her clothes. But they walk into an ambush, and the queen's barbarian servant, Zuwa, captures them. Tito helps Yuri break free, only to be killed by Zuwa. When the chance finally arrives for Yuri to go home, she passes it up, vowing to stay and avenge Tito's death.

In order to shield Yuri from suspicion, Kail announces that she is the incarnation of the goddess Ishtar, and the citizens soon come to adore her. Kail's dream is to rule over an empire of justice with the help of his brother, Prince Zannanza. In an effort to divide the two princes, Queen Nakia uses enchanted water to put a spell on Zannanza. Under the influence of the water, he kidnaps Yuri and carries her off to a city that is being attacked by the Mitanni hordes. Yuri figures out a way to break the Queen's spell over Zannanza, but finds herself in a storm of chaos and bloodshed.

I WILL GATHER OUR BORDER TROOPS AND BUY KAIL SOME TIME.
IF I DON'T ACT, KIZZUWATNA WILL FALL TO THE MITANNI THIS DAY.
BUT YOU MUST GET WORD OF THIS TO HIM!
KAIL MUST KNOW OF THIS INVASION!
CAN YOU FIND HIM WITHOUT MY HELP?
BUT... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
YURI...
CAN YOU GET OUT OF THE CITY ON YOUR OWN?
WHAT?

WE MUST MOBILIZE OUR FORCES IMMEDIATELY.
WE CAN'T ALLOW THE MITANNI ARMIES TO ENTER OUR LAND.
DOESN'T KIZZUWATNA HAVE ANY SOLDIERS?
NOT ENOUGH TO HOLD BACK THE MITANNI FLOOD.
THEY'LL NEED THE HELP OF OUR ARMIES.
AAAGH
RAAAR
AAAGH

YURI...
WAIT A MOMENT.
JUST FOLLOW THE LONE NORTH STAR.
GOOD. KANESH LIES NORTH OF HERE.
OH, YOU MEAN POLARIS. I GOT IT.
THE LONE NORTH STAR?
I'LL MAKE IT!
I'LL BE BACK HERE WITH PRINCE KAIL IN THREE DAYS.
MY BROTHER CAN BE WITH THEM IN TWO DAYS.
AND I'LL GET WORD TO MY MEN IN KANESH.
WHAT?
NO...
...KAIL WILL BE ON HIS WAY HERE IN SEARCH OF US.
...IT'LL TAKE ME A WEEK TO RIDE TO HATTUSA AND BACK.
YOU'RE GOING TO FIGHT THEM, BUT...
BUT YOU MUST GET TO KANESH IN ONE DAY, YURI.
I'LL HOLD OUT FOR AS LONG AS I CAN BEHIND THEM.
OUR OUTPOST HERE IS PROTECTED BY STRONG WALLS.
IT TOOK US TWO DAYS TO GET HERE FROM KANESH. CAN I MAKE IT THERE IN ONE?
GULP
ONE DAY...

YURI...

DON'T WORRY. THAT WAS JUST THE QUEEN'S SPELL TALKING!
PERHAPS DEEP DOWN I DO.

I'LL BE BACK IN THREE DAYS!
YURI!
I'LL SEE YOU SOON. AND GOOD LUCK!
I DON'T HOLD IT AGAINST YOU.

I STILL REMEMBER THE FEEL OF HIS HANDS ON MY BODY, BUT...
HOW CAN I HATE A MAN WHO LOOKS LIKE PRINCE KAIL?

I'VE WRONGED YOU TERRIBLY.
I'M SORRY FOR GETTING YOU INTO THIS.

UM, WELL...
BLUSH

I RESPECT MY BROTHER DEEPLY, BUT I SAID I ENVIED HIM.
I DON'T KNOW WHY I SAID THOSE THINGS.
FOR-GIVE ME.

OOOH!
NO, I CAN'T.
I HAVE NO TIME TO LOSE. I CAN'T GET INVOLVED IN THIS.
OH!
IT'S NOT THE BRAT WE WANT.
PLEASE! DON'T HURT MY SON!
AWP

ANTANNI SOLDIERS ARE GUARDING THE CITY GATES.
HOW CAN I GET PAST THEM?
NO!!
STOP!!

YES, WE KNOW HER, BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?
THIS ALWAYS HAPPENS IN WAR.
THE SOLDIERS BURN OUR HOUSES, RAPE US WOMEN, AND STEAL OUR VALUABLES.
AND WE CAN ONLY HIDE LIKE RATS.
THESE WOMEN MUST BE LOCALS.
DO YOU KNOW HER? HOW CAN YOU LET HER...
I KNOW YOU PITY THE WOMAN, BUT YOU CAN'T HELP HER.
IF YOU GO THERE, YOU WILL SHARE HER FATE.
DON'T GO OVER THERE.
WHAT?
I SHALL RULE THE EMPIRE WITH JUSTICE. WE SHALL NEITHER INVADE OTHER LANDS, NOR ALLOW OUR LANDS TO BE INVADED.
I WISH TO RULE A PEACEFUL EMPIRE.
PRINCE KAI...
I CAN'T STAND BY AND LET THIS HAPPEN.
WAIT, GIRL!
WHOOSH
NO!
OUTTA THE WAY, BRAT!
STAY HERE.
STAY OUT OF IT!
MOMMY!
AAAGH!

YOU WEASELS LIKE TO PICK ON GIRLS? TRY ME!
SHIK
HOW DARE YOU?!
NO, SOLDIER, HOW DARE YOU?!
HEY!
KLANK
WHA--
GAK
RUN, YOU ANTANK COWARDS!
SHE DROVE THEM OFF!!
LET'S GO...
WE'LL GET HER LATER.
CUT THEM UP, GIRL!
SHE'S GOOD!!

AAAH!
WAP
WAK

THAT'S NOT TRUE! THE HITTITE SOLDIERS WON'T DO THESE TERRIBLE THINGS TO YOU!!
PRINCE KAIL WOULDN'T ALLOW THAT.
I'M SURE THE HITTITE ARMIES WILL COME TO HELP YOU.
I'M SURE...
HMPH!
THEY ARE NO DIFFERENT FROM MITANNI.
WE HAVE NOWHERE TO GO.
THIS IS OUR HOME.
BESIDES, THE SOLDIERS KILLED MY HUSBAND. I HAVE TO BURY HIM.

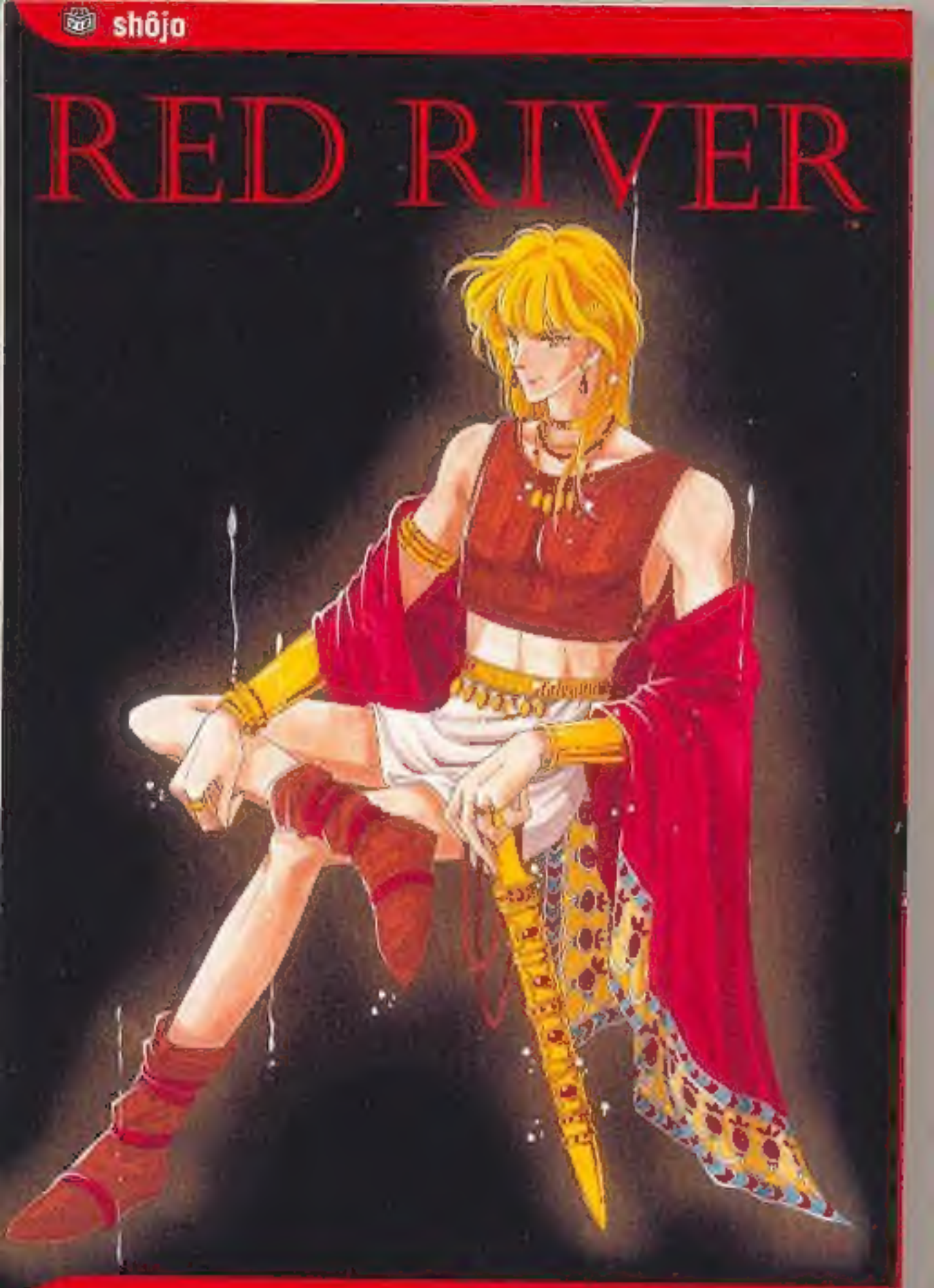
YAY
HOORAY
YAY
THAT WAS INCRED-IBLE! ♡♡
YOU... YOU WERE WONDER-FUL!
THANK YOU... THANK YOU SO MUCH.
ARE YOU OKAY, LITTLE BOY?

I'M ON AN URGENT MISSION!
GO WHERE? THE MITANNI SOLDIERS ARE EVERY-WHERE.
I HAVE TO GO.

VERY WELL, I'LL SHOW YOU A SECRET PATH. FOLLOW ME.
AHA! I UNDER-STAND.
A SECRET PATH? WHY DON'T YOU ESCAPE THEN?
PLUSH
YOU'RE ONLY A CHILD, BUT...
...IS THERE A MAN?
ARE YOU GOING HOME TO YOUR FAMILY?
YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU'RE FROM AROUND HERE.
MP
MP

shôjo

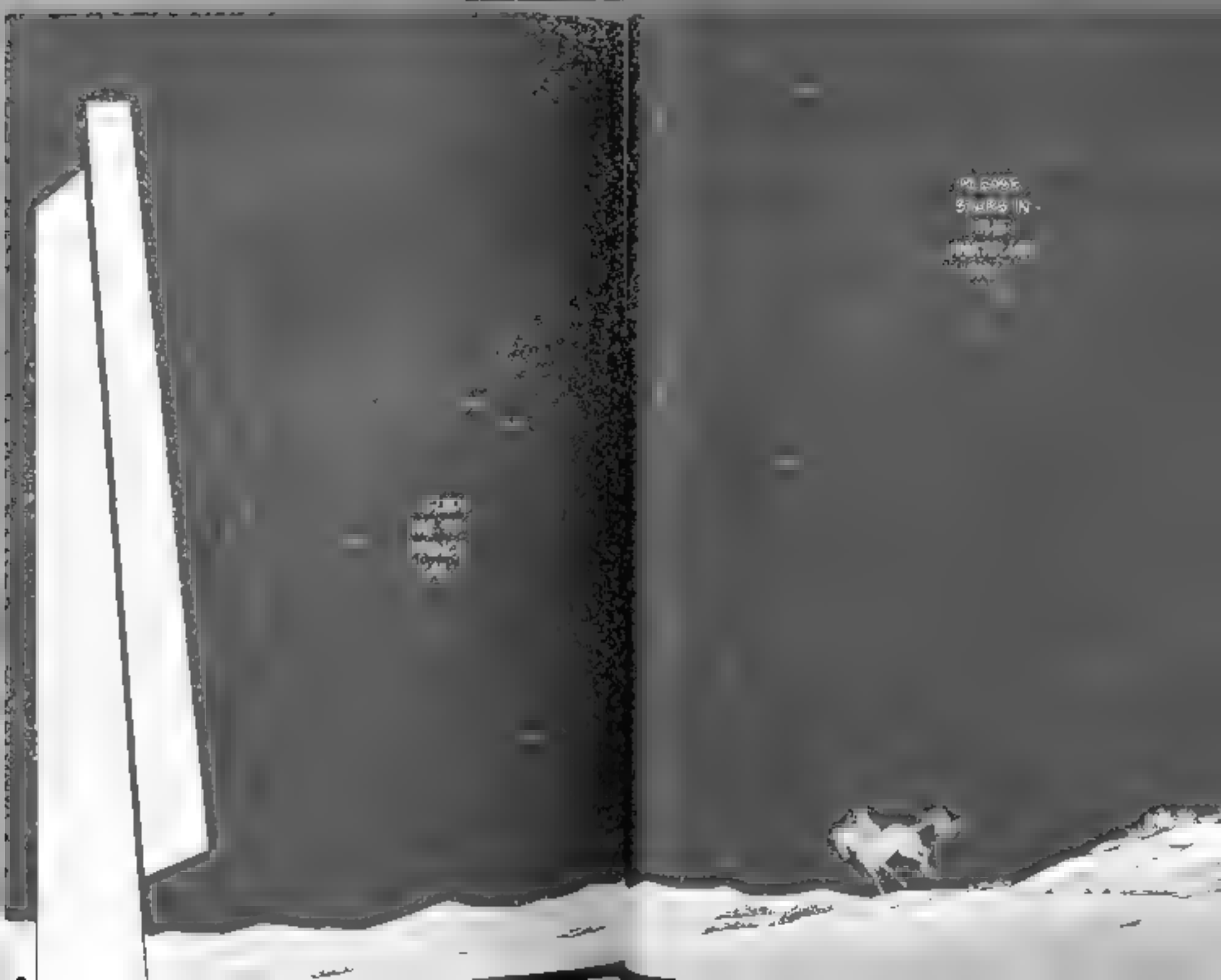
RED RIVER



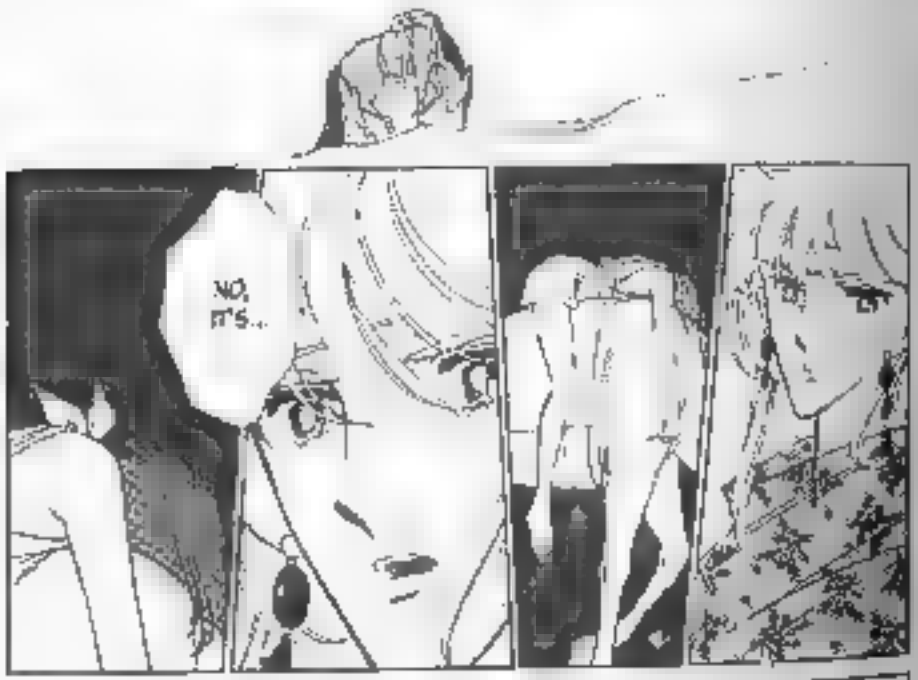
4

story and art by Chie Shinohara

RUN FAST, HORSE!
I DON'T CARE HOW TIRED OR SORE I GET!
I'M GONNA MAKE IT TO KANESH IN ONE DAY.
AT THE SIDE OF PRINCE KAIL AND HIS ARMY!
I WILL.
MAY THE GODS SPEED YOU!
IS YOUR MAN A HITTITE?
IF HE IS A MAN OF RANK PLEASE ASK HIM TO TREAT US WELL.
GOOD LUCK TO ALL OF YOU, TOO!
THANK YOU.
I'LL BE BACK SOON!!



WHAT IS THAT?
A STRAY HORSE?


NO, IT'S...

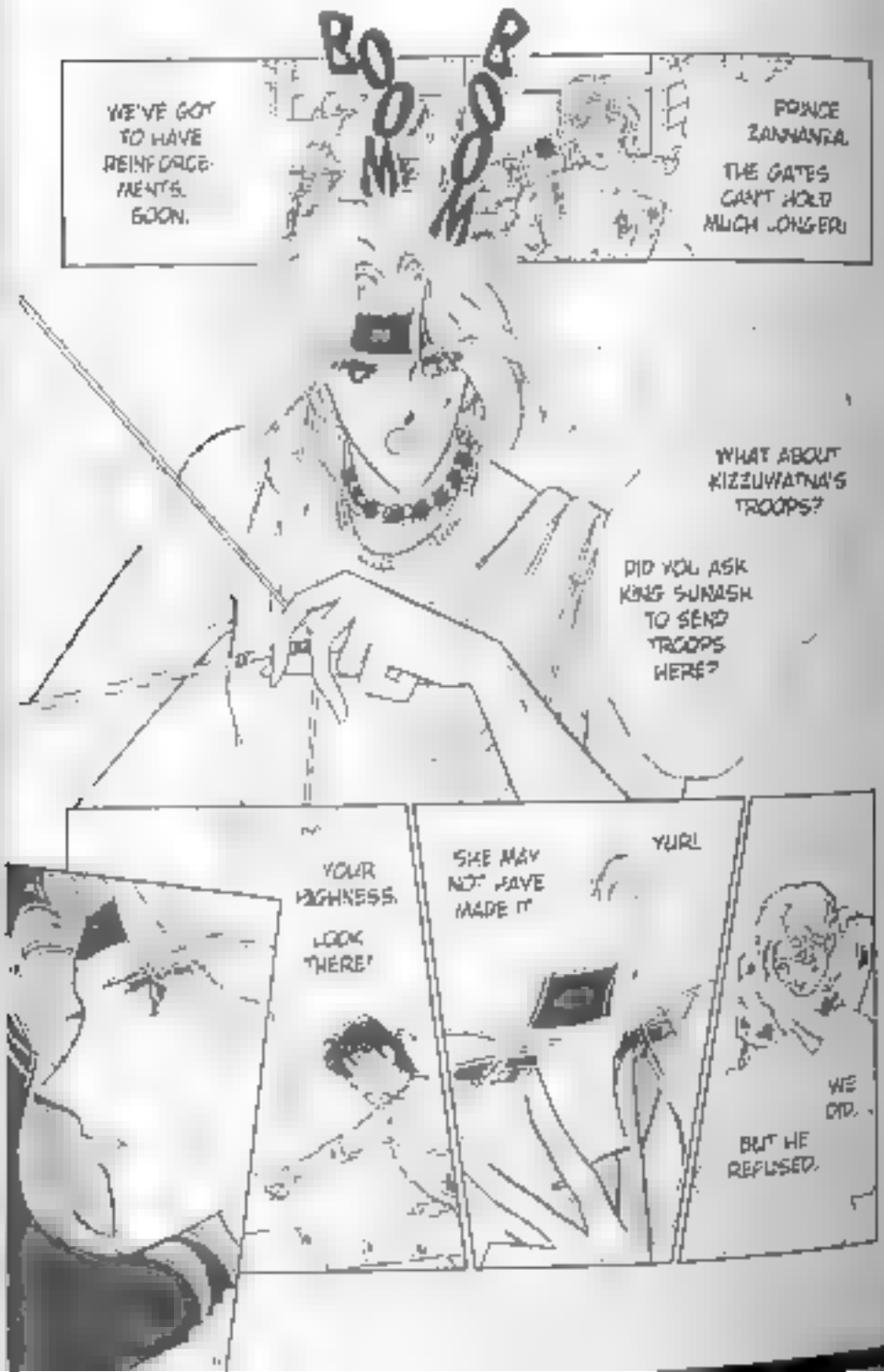
KLOP
YURI!

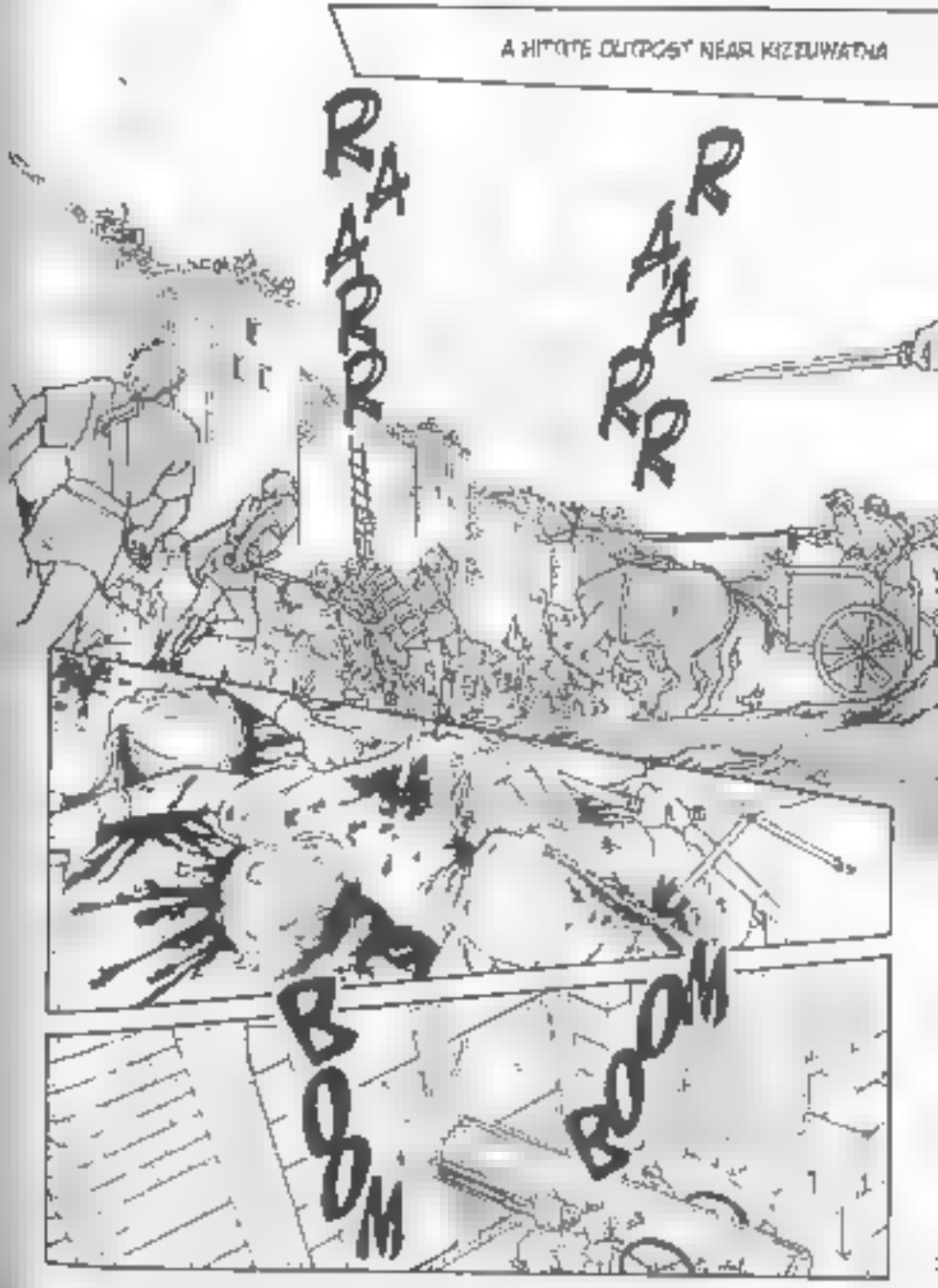
TARRUMP TARRUMP
I'M NOT TIRED.
KLOP KLOP
WILL YOU REST AWHILE?
KLOP
WE ARE NEARING KIZILWATNA, MY PRINCE.

I SHALL...
YOU'VE DONE WELL, GIRL.
THE MITANNI HAVE OVERRUN KIZZUWATNA! YOU HAVE TO GO THERE WITH YOUR ARMIES AT ONCE.
YOU'VE GOT TO GO THERE AT ONCE
PRINCE KAIL? THE REAL KAIL?
WHAT?!
PRINCE ZANNANZA IS TRYING TO HOLD THEM BACK UNTIL YOU ARRIVE!
PRINCE KAIL
IS THIS A DREAM?
NO, IT'S ME! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?
GASP
YURI!
SPEAK TO ME!
YURI!

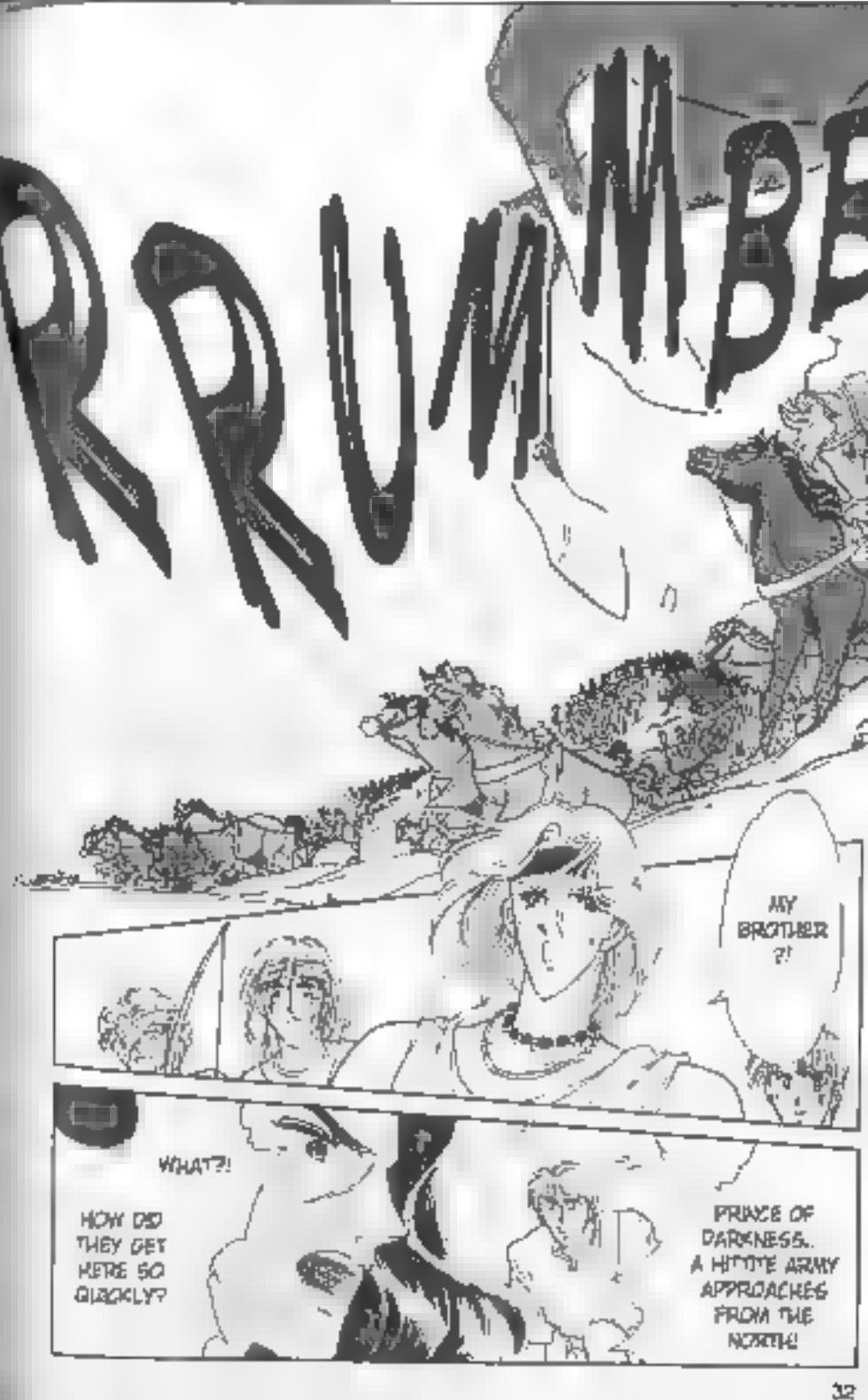
WHAT'S WRONG PRINCE KAIL?
YES, MY PRINCE!
KLOP
KINOKURI. WE'RE GOING TO KANESH TO GET AN ARMY!
NOTHING
TAKE CARE OF YURI, HADI. FOLLOW. BUT NOT TOO FAST
..THAT PRINCE KAIL SAW?
DO YOU THINK..
PRINCE ZARANZIA MUST HAVE DONE THIS
LOVE BITES.
SHE MUSTN'T GET TOO HOT
SISTERS. MAKE A SUNSHADE FOR THE PRINCESS
HEY, LOOK HERE

YURI!!
PLEASE
TELL YOUR SOLDIERS NOT TO MISTREAT THE PEOPLE
THANK GOD I FOUND YOU
PUSH


BOOM
BOOM
WE'VE GOT TO HAVE REINFORCEMENTS. SOON.
PRINCE ZANNANZA. THE GATES CAN'T HOLD MUCH LONGER!
WHAT ABOUT KIZZUWATNA'S TROOPS?
DID YOU ASK KING SUNASH TO SEND TROOPS HERE?
YOUR HIGHNESS. LOOK THERE!
SHE MAY NOT HAVE MADE IT
YURI
WE DID.
BUT HE REFUSED.


A HITTITE OUTPOST NEAR KIZZUWATNA
RAARR
RAARR
BOOM
BOOM

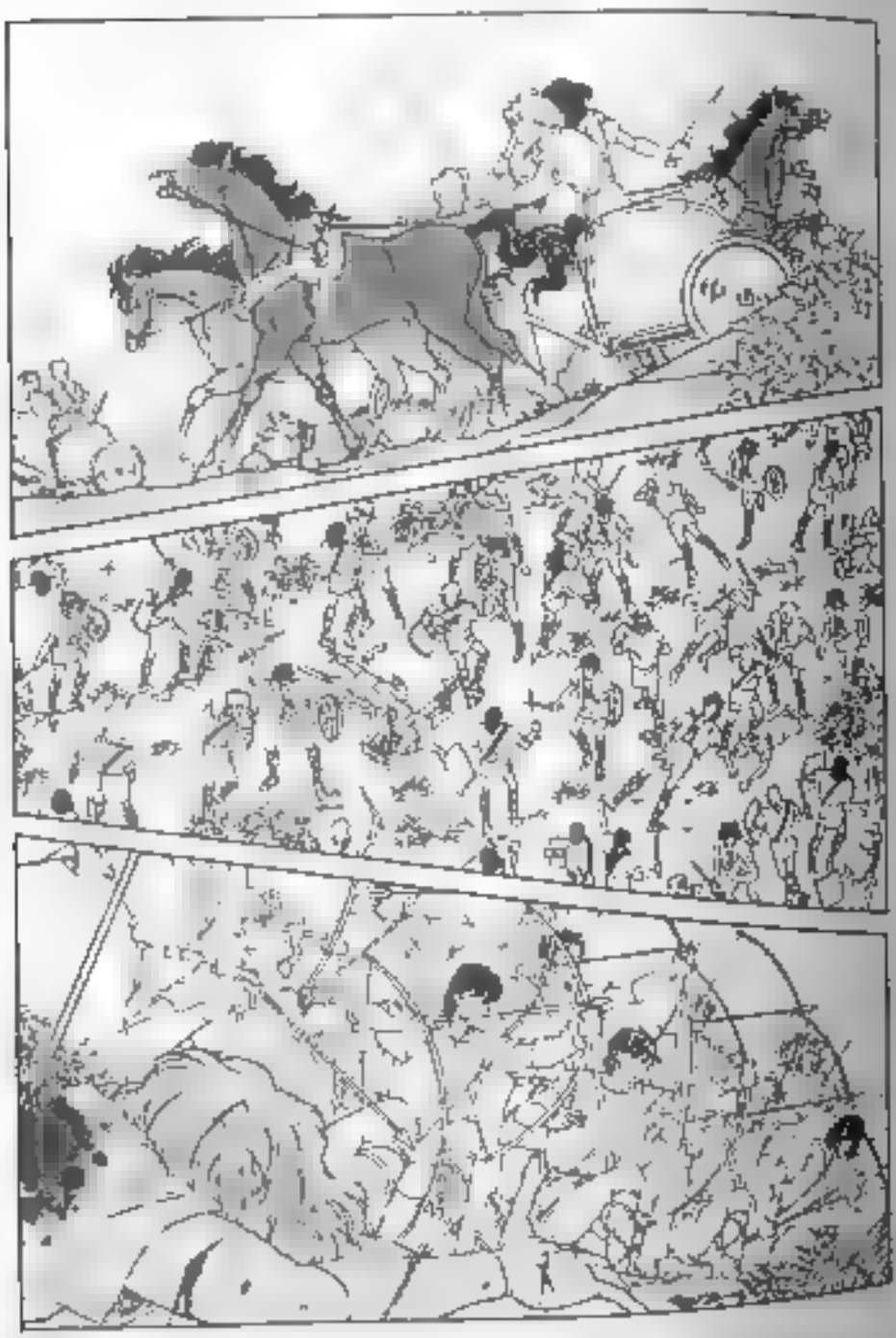
PRINCE ZANNANZA.
WE MADE IT!
KAIL! YURI!


RRUM
MY BROTHER ?!
WHAT?!
HOW DID THEY GET HERE SO QUICKLY?
PRINCE OF DARKNESS. A HITTITE ARMY APPROACHES FROM THE NORTH!

ON THIS DAY THE HITTITES MET THE AHHIYAWA IN BATTLE.
IN THE SMALL KINGDOM OF KIZZUWATNA ON THE EASTERN SHORES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA
HADL
GET ME A HORSE AND A SWORD
I WON'T BE A BURDEN TO PRINCE KAIL IN THIS BATTLE!
I'LL JUST GET TANGLED IN IT
A CLOAK?
BUT I'M NOT COLD.
HERE THEY ARE
YOUR HORSE AWAITS YOU IN THE COURTYARD MY FATHER RE-FORGED THE IRON SWORD FOR YOU.
ZANNANZA GAVE ME HICKEYS?!
GASP
IT'S FOR... YOUR CHEST.
WHAT?
AND PLEASE WEAR THIS, PRINCESS YURI.
I HOPE PRINCE KAIL DIDN'T SEE THEM.

THE 500 CHARIOTS AND 5,000 INFANTRY OF THE MITANNI TROOPS,
...ARE LED BY CROWN PRINCE MATTIWAZA, THE BLOODY PRINCE OF DARKNESS.
NO ONE EXPECTED THAT THESE THREE PRINCES WOULD FACE EACH OTHER SO EARLY IN THE WAR
300 CHARIOTS AND 2,500 HITTITE INFANTRY...
ARE LED BY THE KINGDOM'S THIRD AND FOURTH PRINCES, KAIL MURSIL AND ZANNANZA HATTUSIL.

IS HE ANGRY?
HE MUST HAVE SEEN THE LOVE BITES.
FWAP
ISHTAR SHOULD REMAIN IN THE TEMPLE
BUT I
DO AS I SAY!
KIKILIA, COME.
BROTHERS!
ZANNANZA, YOU WILL COMMAND THE LEFT WING. TRY TO GET ROUND TO ATTACK MATTWAZA FROM BEHIND.
LET'S NOT DISCUSS IT NOW.
FORGIVE ME FOR KIDNAPPING YURI. I WAS--
PRINCE KAIL?
YES, MY PRINCE
YURI.
I DON'T WANT TO HIDE IN HERE! TAKE ME WITH YOU!
YOU STAY INSIDE THE FORT WITH HADI AND HER SISTERS.



WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YURI AND ZANNANZA?
RIGHT WING!!
FOLLOW ME!!

THE ONE COMMANDING THE RIGHT FLANK IS ESPECIALLY GOOD.
THEY MUST HAVE TWO SKILLED GENERALS.
MY PRINCE?
LOOK. THOUGH DIVIDED, THE HITTITE WINGS MOVE WITH DISCIPLINE AND UNITY.

THEY MAKE NO MOVE.
WHAT OF KIZZUWATNA'S SOLDIERS?
AS IT IS, BOTH SIDES WILL BE ANNIHILATED.
WHAT SHALL WE DO?

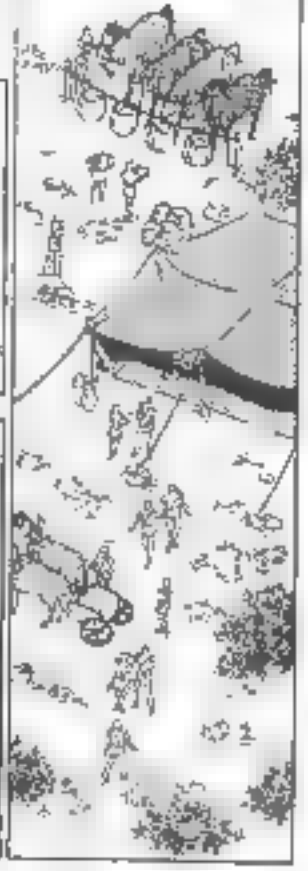
HMPH. TYPICAL OF THAT OPPORTUNISTIC COWARD KING SUNASH.

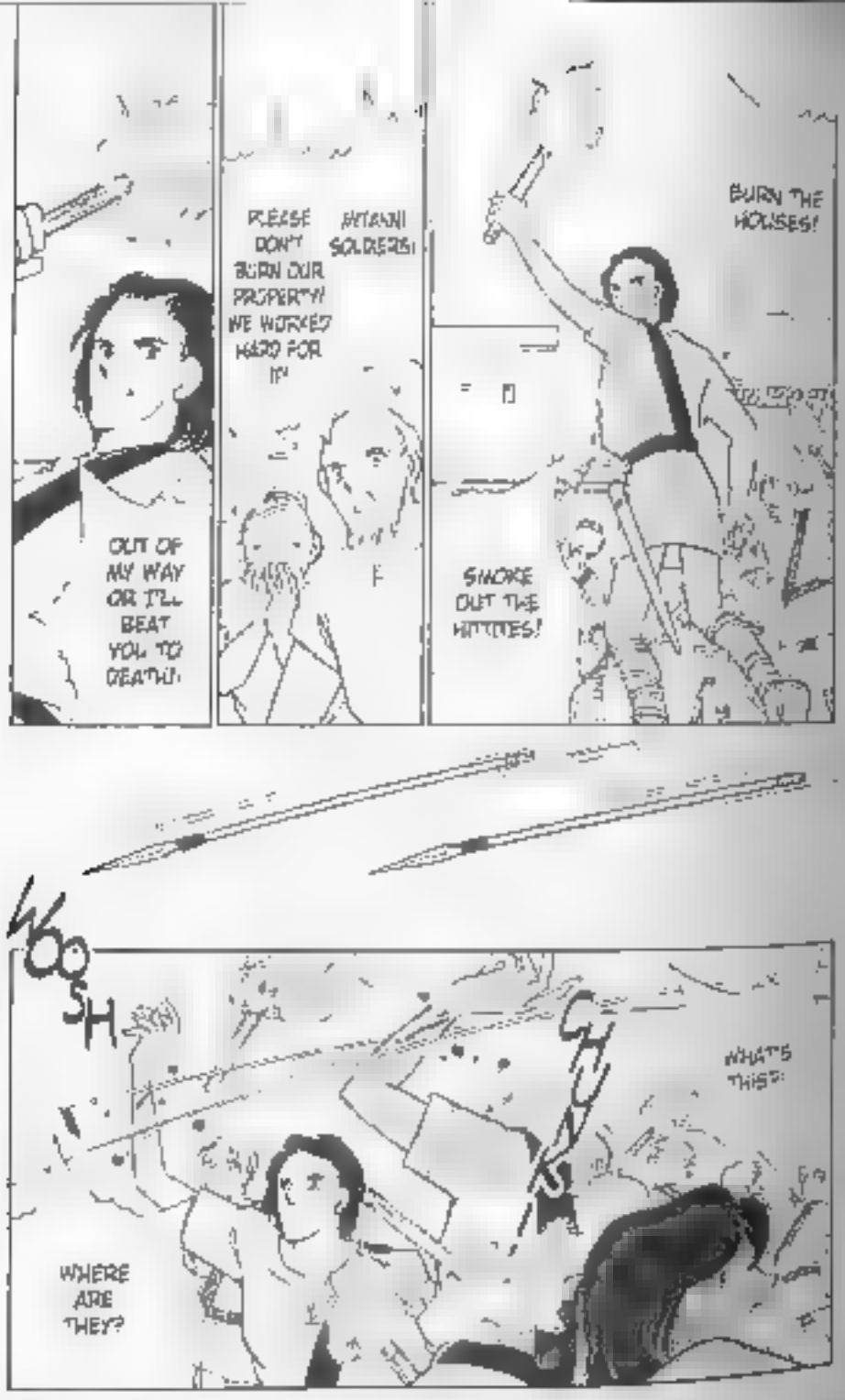
THEN WE WILL TURN THE SEA RED WITH HITTITE BLOOD.
WE WILL GET HIM TO JOIN US
IT'S TIME TO PAY HIM A VISIT

HOW DO WE FARE?

WE OUTNUMBER THEM, BUT WE CANNOT BREAK THEIR RANKS.
IT IS VERY STRANGE!
WE ARE AT AN IMPASSE.

HMPH...
THIS IS WHAT AN ABLE COMMANDER WITH A SMALL NUMBER OF GOOD SOLDIERS CAN DO




OUT OF MY WAY OR I'LL BEAT YOU TO DEATH!
PLEASE DON'T BURN OUR PROPERTY! WE WORKED HARD FOR IT!
HITTANI SOLDIERS!
BURN THE HOUSES!
SMOKE OUT THE HITTITES!
WOOSH
WHERE ARE THEY?
CHUNK
WHAT'S THIS?

INFANTRY-MEN, GUARD THE CITY STREETS.
YOU ARE NOT TO HARASS THE CITIZENS: PROTECT THE WOMEN AND CHILDREN!
WHAT?
WE'RE NOT GOING TO HARM YOU.
OUR ISHTAR DOESN'T LIKE TO SEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN MISTREATED
AAAH! PLEASE DON'T KILL US.
HUSH. CALL THE OTHERS HERE WE'RE TAKING YOU OUT OF HARM'S WAY

KLANK
WAAH!
KLANK

I WON'T LET YOU BURN THIS CITY!!
HADI RYU, SHALA.
LET'S GET THEM!
RIGHT!

GIRL, I THOUGHT YOU WENT BACK TO YOUR MAN.
I DID. HE'S WITH ME. THAT'S HIM OVER THERE.
IN THE CHARIOT DRAWN BY GOLD-MANED HORSES.
OH! HE'S VERY HANDSOME
HE MUST BE AN IMPORTANT MAN, EH?

HOW STRONG THEY ARE!
ARE THOSE WOMEN ALSO HITTITE SOLDIERS?!
I'VE NEVER SEEN WOMEN WARRIORS BEFORE
OH, THAT GIRL IS.

OH, I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!
LITTLE GIRL, YOU'VE COME BACK!
WHIN

SHE IS PRINCESS YURI CONCUBINE OF PRINCE KAL MURSIL.
YOUNG LADY
WHO IS THAT GIRL?
BACK
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THESE WOMEN FOR ME, OKAY?
SHE IS ISHTAR OF THE HITTITES.
NOW LET GO OF ME!
THAT WHISPER OF A GIRL!

I WISH I COULD TELL HIM THAT..
BUT I CAN'T
IF I WANT TO STAY WITH HIM, I HAVE TO GO ON BEING ISHTAR.
HE WON'T LET THEM.
NOTHING HAPPENED BETWEEN PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME. I LOVE ONLY YOU, PRINCE KAL.

IF IT HELPS HIM, I WILL PLAY THE ROLE OF ISHTAR WITH ALL MY MIGHT
I WANT TO BE AT PRINCE KAL'S SIDE, AND DO WHATEVER I CAN FOR HIM
SWISH
HAH!
YURI! LOOK OUT!
OH!
YOU LITTLE FOOL I TOLD YOU TO STAY IN THE FORT!
GO BACK BEFORE AN ARROW FINDS YOU!!
PRINCE KAL!
I'M NOT ANGRY WITH YOU.
I'M SORRY I SHOUTED. I'M AGITATED FROM FIGHTING.
!!
I'M SORRY!
DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME. PLEASE DON'T BE ANGRY WITH ME ANY-MORE!
I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP!
I'M SORRY.
I WANTED TO HELP YOU.

YOUR HIGH-NESS!!
HAH!
I'D LIKE TO HAVE HER WHERE NO OTHER MAN COULD EVER LAY EYES ON HER.
AND HAVE HER ALL TO MYSELF.
PRINCE.
SWOP
I DON'T WANT HER ON THE BATTLE
I'LL KEEP HER LOCKED AWAY SAFE WITHIN
COMMAND ME
I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU!
BUT YOU'VE DONE ENOUGH.
YOU'VE DONE WELL AS OUR ISHTAR.
BETTER THAN I COULD HAVE IMAGINED.

THE PALACE OF KING SUNASH OF KIZZUWATNA
YOU'VE MADE A WISE CHOICE.
shiver
shiver
shiver
shiver
KING SUNASH.
BUT YOU MAY LIVE ONLY IF YOU VOW TO REMAIN LOYAL TO US AFTER WE CONQUER ANATOLIA.
BUT IF YOU HAD JOINED ME IMMEDIATELY, THIS UNPLEASANTNESS COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.
AS WELL, YOU'LL HAVE OTHER CONCUBINES AND CHILDREN.

WHAT?
PRINCE KAIL!
THE KING OF KIZZUWATNA HAS SIDED WITH MITANNI.
KING SUNASH HAS BETRAYED US.
WHY? I THOUGHT KIZZUWATNA WAS YOUR ALLY!
PRINCE KAIL...
WITH KIZZUWATNA'S 2,000 MEN, THE MITANNI CAN SWEEP EVEN PRINCE KAIL FROM THE FIELD!
SHALA!

PRINCE KAL
THE FIRST AND SECOND CHARIOT UNITS OF THE RIGHT FLANK ARE FALLING BACK.
THEY'RE HOPE-LESSLY OUTNUM-BERED.
PRINCE ZANKANZA HAS RETURNED.
OH.
BROTHER. OUR FORCES WILL SOON BE TOTALLY ANNIHILATED!
BRO-THER
FORGIVE ME. THE LEFT WING FORCES COULDN'T HOLD.
IF KIZUWATNA FALLS, THE SOUTHERN PART OF OUR EMPIRE WILL BE OPEN TO ATTACK
THE MITANNI WILL POUR ACROSS THE BORDER AND RAVAGE OUR LANDS.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
YOUR HIGHNESS! THE HITTITES ARE ADVANCING.
RAAA AH.H
THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM! WE CAN'T WIN!
DAMN.
ALL FORCES.
RRMMBB

IT'S THE PEOPLE OF KIZILWATNA.
OUR XING MAY HAVE SIDED WITH THE ANNANNA, BUT WE'LL STAND WITH HITTITES.
WE PREFER THE HITTITE'S ISHTAR TO THE BLOODY PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
IF AN OUTSIDER MUST RULE US,
WE'VE ALWAYS LIVED IN THE SHADOW OF FOREIGN RULERS.
OH..

SPLASH
BRICKS!
AAGGH! BOILING WATER!
TAKE THAT!
WE KNOW OUR CITY BETTER THAN YOU DOGS DO!

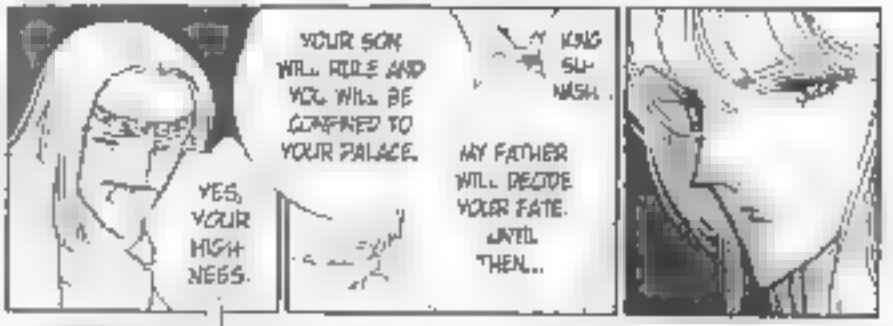
PRINCE KAIL WON!"
WE WON? THE HITTITES WON?!
LOOK!"
THE MITANNI ARE FLEEING!
AND DON'T COME BACK
WE DID IT! RUN, YOU BASTARDS!
I SHALL REMEMBER THAT NAME
KAIL MURSIL
WHAT?
THE PEOPLE OF KIZZUWATNA ARE ATTACKING US THROUGHOUT THE CITY!
PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
THE RABBLE IS ATTACKING OUR FORCES!
DID YOU LEARN WHO THE HITTITE COMMANDER IS?
YES MY PRINCE THE PRISONERS SAY HE IS PRINCE KAIL MURSIL.
HMPH. WE CAN'T WIN A BATTLE WITH THE ENTIRE POPULACE IN THE CITY STREETS
WE'LL REGROUP AND PLAN OUR NEXT MOVE
WITH-DRAW!
ISHTAR?
HOW CAN THIS BE? THOSE TERROR-STRICKEN WORMS HAVE TAKEN UP ARMS AGAINST US?
YES, AND THEIR BATTLE-CRY IS "ISHTAR."

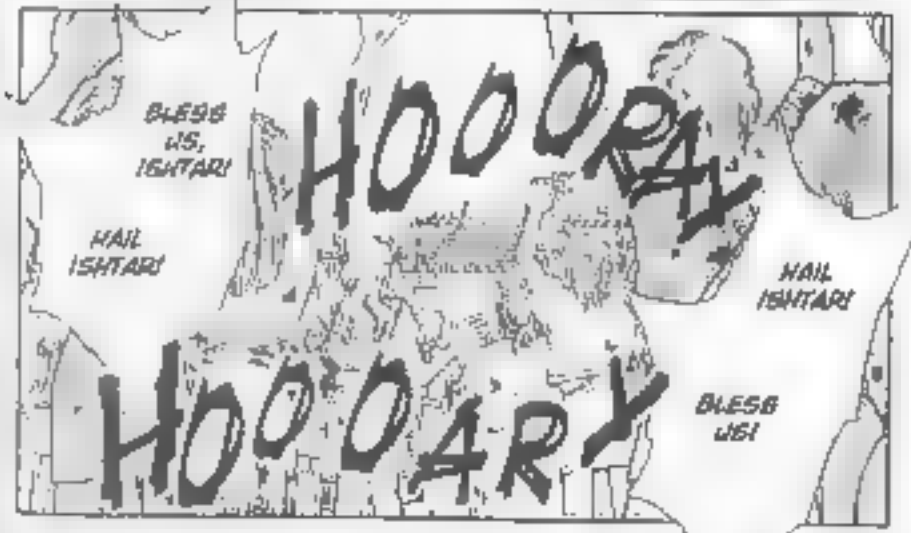
PRINCE KAEL
HOORAY
HOORAY
THE PEOPLE HAVE EMBRACED ISHTAR FAR BEYOND OUR EXPECTATIONS.
IT'S BIGGER THAN US NOW.

TWO
YOU.
GIVE THEM YOUR BLESSING
MY BLESSING? HOW DO I DO THAT?

PRINCE KA--

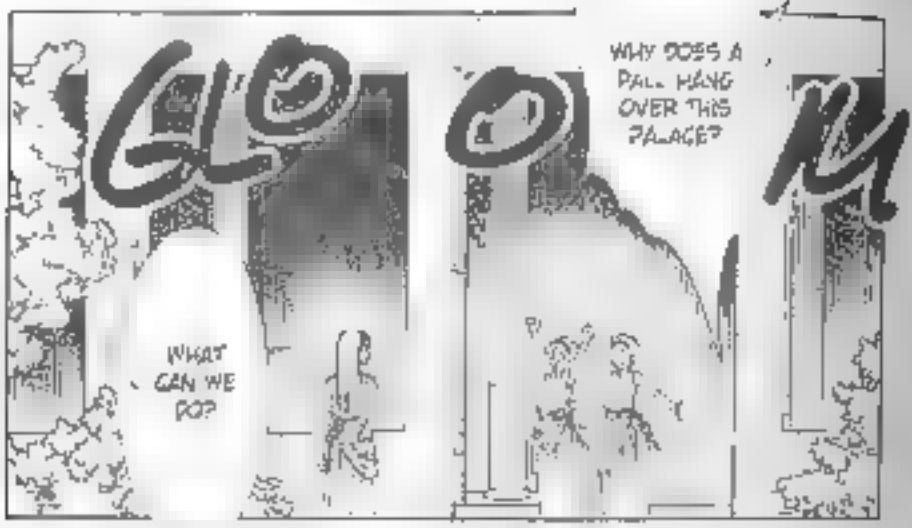
MY REMORSE OVERCOMES ME! PLEASE SPARE MY LIFE!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME! I WAS FORCED TO HELP THE NIYANH!
I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS!
PRINCE KAEL


YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
YOUR SON WILL RULE AND YOU WILL BE CONFINED TO YOUR PALACE.
MY FATHER WILL DECIDE YOUR FATE. UNTIL THEN..
KING SUNASH.


BLESS US, ISHTAR!
HOORAY
HAIL ISHTAR!
HAIL ISHTAR!
HOORAY
BLESS US!

SWAP
ISHTAR BLESSES.
KIZZU-WATHA!!
COLD LIPS.

WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT THIS FEELING?
I LOVE PRINCE KAIL SO MUCH IT HURTS.
ISHTAR!
ISHTAR!
ISHTAR!
ISHTAR!
WHAT CAN I DO?
BUT HIS KISS WAS COLD.
THERE WAS NO FEELING IN THAT KISS.
HOORAY
I FEEL THE PEOPLE'S EXCITEMENT I FEEL THE WARMTH OF THE SUN AND THE EARTH.


WHY DOES A PALL HANG OVER THIS PALACE?
WHAT CAN WE DO?

PRINCE KAIL
AND EVEN PRINCESS YURI SEEM SO SAD
PRINCE ZANNANZA

BUT DESPITE ALL THAT
WHY?

THE SUN SHINES IN A BEAUTIFUL BLUE SKY TODAY
THE CITY OF KATTUSA REVELS IN THE VICTORY OVER THE MITANNI.

OF COURSE
WHICH IS WHY I BELIEVE SHE WILL TRY TO PERSUADE HIS MAJESTY TO PUNISH THEM HARSHLY
NO DOUBT NAKIA WILL INITIATE A DEBATE ON THE MATTER
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN?
THEIR VICTORY OVER THE MITANNI HAS NO BEARING ON THESE JUDGEMENTS.
AND KAIL IS ACCUSED OF NEGLIGENCE FOR NOT STOPPING HIM.
ZANNANZA ABDUCTED HIS BROTHER'S CONCUBINE.
OH.
BUT THE KIDNAPPING WAS PART OF QUEEN NAKIA'S PLOT TO DESTROY THE PRINCES!
BUT THEY WERE ALONE TOGETHER FOR DAYS. NO WONDER PRINCE KAIL IS SUSPICIOUS.
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID...
BUT PRINCESS YURI AND PRINCE ZANNANZA DIDN'T MAKE LOVE, DID THEY?
WHAK WHAK
WE HAVE ENOUGH TO WORRY ABOUT IN THIS PALACE
Y-YES, HADI.
STOP THAT WICKED WHISPERING AND GET TO WORK, YOU MINXES!!
HADI'S RIGHT
I-BANI.
I'M MORE CONCERNED ABOUT PRINCE ZANNANZA'S LIFE...
THAN PRINCE KAIL'S LOVE LIFE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN?

EXCUSE ME PRINCE KAI.

EXCUSE ME PRINCE KAI.
HIS MAJESTY SUMMONS PRINCE KAI, PRINCE ZANKANJA AND PRINCESS YURI TO HIS PALACE AT ONCE
THE EMPEROR'S MESSENGER IS HERE.

KAIL MURSILI AND ZANNANZA HATTU-SI...
FIRST I WISH TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR HEROIC VICTORY IN THE BATTLE OF KIZZUWATNA.
THE EMPEROR IS BOUND TO OBEY THE CODE.
THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD SYSTEM, BUT I WONDER HOW IT WILL WORK IN THIS CASE.
UNDER THE CODE, OUR EMPEROR, UNLIKE THE RU...ERS OF EGYPT AND BABYLONIA, CANNOT MAKE IMPORTANT DECISIONS SOLELY ON HIS OWN AUTHORITY
THEY USE THE HITTITE CODE CONSISTING OF 200 CHAPTERS OF LAWS.
THAT'S RIGHT. THE HITTITE STATE HAS THREE DECISION-MAKING BODIES--
HIS MAJESTY, THE TABARNA; HER MAJESTY THE TAWAN-ANNA;
AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

THE IMPERIAL PALACE
TA-BO-GAI
THESE PEOPLE?
WHO ARE AL...
MINISTERS?
I SEE
THE QUEEN HAS CONVENED THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

YOU WON'T WHEEDLE YOUR WAY OUT OF THIS, PRINCE KAIL.
SILENCE!
PLEASE WAIT YOUR MAJESTY
THAT THEY SAW PRINCE ZANNANZA TAKE THE GIRL AGAINST HER WILL.
GUARDS AT THE CITY GATES AND IN KANESH HAVE TESTIFIED.
IT WASN'T KIDNAPPING..

NO, THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
IF ONLY WE HAD PROOF THAT QUEEN NAKIA'S MAGIC WAS BEHIND IT
BUT HER MAGIC WATER EVAPORATED. SO WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE AGAINST HER.

HOWEVER, THAT SUCCESS DOES NOT ERASE THE CHARGES AGAINST YOU.
MY SONS ARE MEANT TO BE EXAMPLES TO THE PEOPLE. YET YOU HAVE VIOLATED OUR LAWS.
NOT ONLY DID YOU CAUSE TURMOIL IN A ROYAL PALACE, BUT THROUGHOUT THE CITY
ESPECIALLY YOU, ZANNANZA.
KIDNAPPING IS A SERIOUS OFFENSE

..THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS CONSIDER MY PROPOSAL.
THEREFORE. I DEMAND.
AS HIS MAJESTY SAID BEFORE.
PRINCES SHOULD BE EXAMPLES!

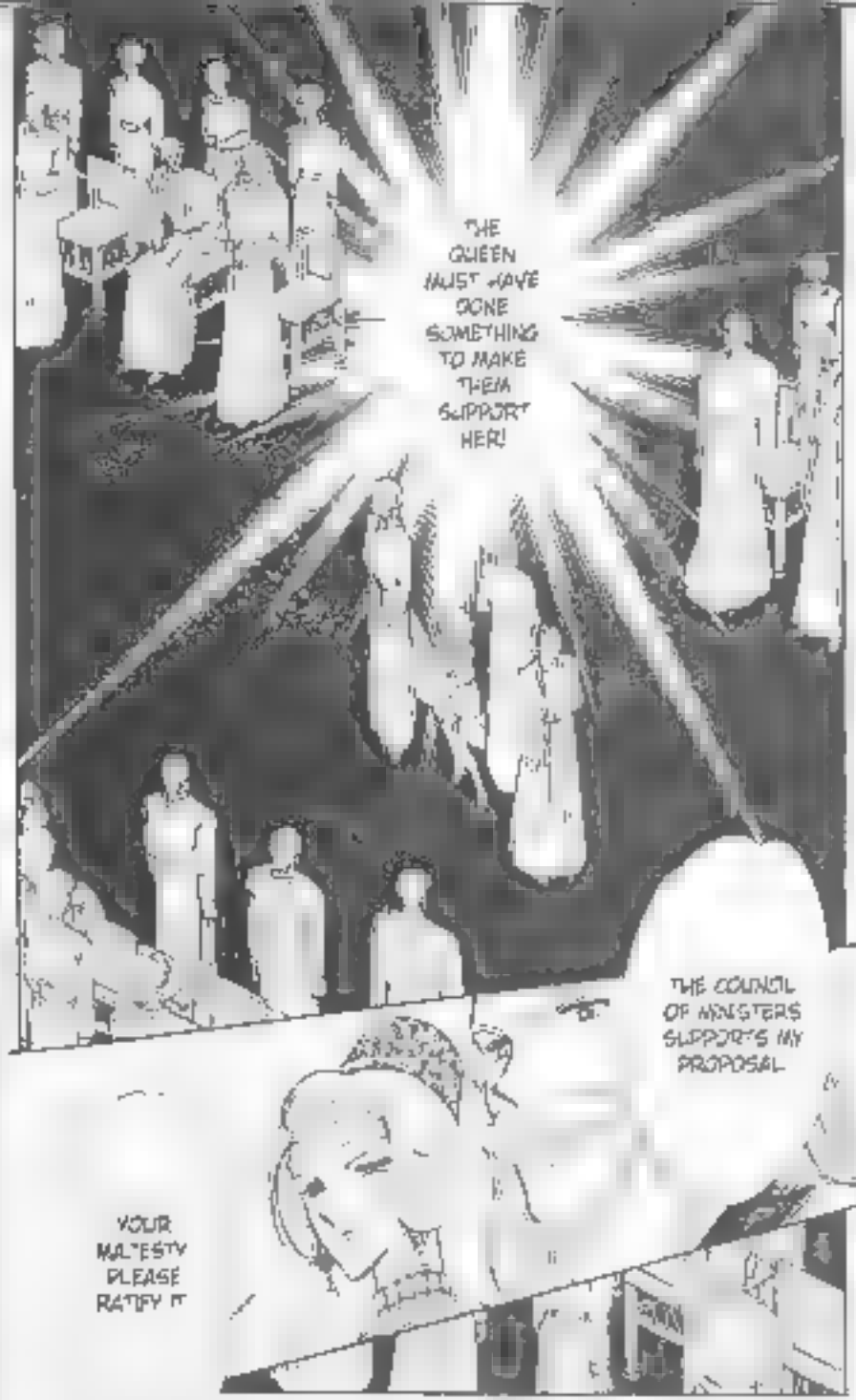
THEY MUST KNOW HOW IMPORTANT PRINCE KAIL IS TO THE EMPIRE.
SURELY THE MINISTERS WON'T APPROVE IT!

I SUPPORT THE QUEEN'S PROPOSAL.
KLINK
KLINK
KLINK
AND I.
SO DO I.

STRIPPED OF THEIR RANK?
THEY WOULD BECOME COMMON SUBJECTS
THE QUEEN WANTS TO..
..DEPRIVE PRINCE KAIL OF HIS RIGHT OF SUCCESSION.
THAT SLY WITCH !!

THAT IS NOT ENOUGH!
THE HITTITE CODE REQUIRES THAT AN ORDINARY CITIZEN BE FINED ONE YEAR'S INCOME FOR KIDNAPPING.
BUT AS YOU ARE PRINCES, I FINE YOU 200 TIMES THAT AMOUNT YOU MUST PAY 80 SILVER MANA
I DEMAND THAT THE PRINCES BE STRIPPED OF THEIR ROYAL RANK!

WAIT YOUR MAJESTY!
THIS IS ABSURD!
OH.
I SHALL NOW PRONOUNCE JUDGEMENT
PRINCE KAI MURSILI AND PRINCE ZANNANZA HATTUSILI SHALL BE DEPRIVED OF
THE KIDNAPPING WAS JUST A TACTICAL PLOY OF PRINCE KAI'S.
THE COUNCIL HAS SIDED WITH THE QUEEN.
EVEN THE EMPEROR CAN'T OVERTURN THEIR DECISION.


THE QUEEN MUST HAVE DONE SOMETHING TO MAKE THEM SUPPORT HER!
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS SUPPORTS MY PROPOSAL
YOUR MAJESTY PLEASE RATIFY IT

HAVING LEARNED THAT THE HITAKNI WERE GOING TO ATTACK KIZILI WATHA
PRINCE KAIL SENT PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME THERE TO PREPARE THE CITY TO REPEL THE INVADERS.
AND TO FOOL ANY ENEMY SPIES, HE MADE IT LOOK LIKE I WAS KIDNAPPED.
BLINK
IT'S TRUE NOTHING SCANDALOUS HAPPENED
PRINCE ZANNANZA AND I DID.
NOTHING TO BE ASHAMED OF
YURI?!
WAIT!
I WOULD HEAR WHAT SHE HAS TO SAY
BE SILENT, GIRL.
gulp
OH?
I MEAN...
UM, VERY WELL.
WHAT?
PRINCE KAIL STAGED THE WHOLE THING TO FOOL THE HITAKNI!

I KNEW THERE MUST BE A LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR IT ALL
HA HA HA
MOST AUDACIOUS
EXCELLENT WORK, PRINCE KAL

GO WITH MY BLESSING.
A BRILLIANT PLAN, MY SONS. YOU WILL BOTH BE DECORATED FOR THIS
VERY WELL

I MADE THAT WHOLE STORY UP BUT IT WORKED. THANK GOD.
THANK HEAVEN.
WUMP

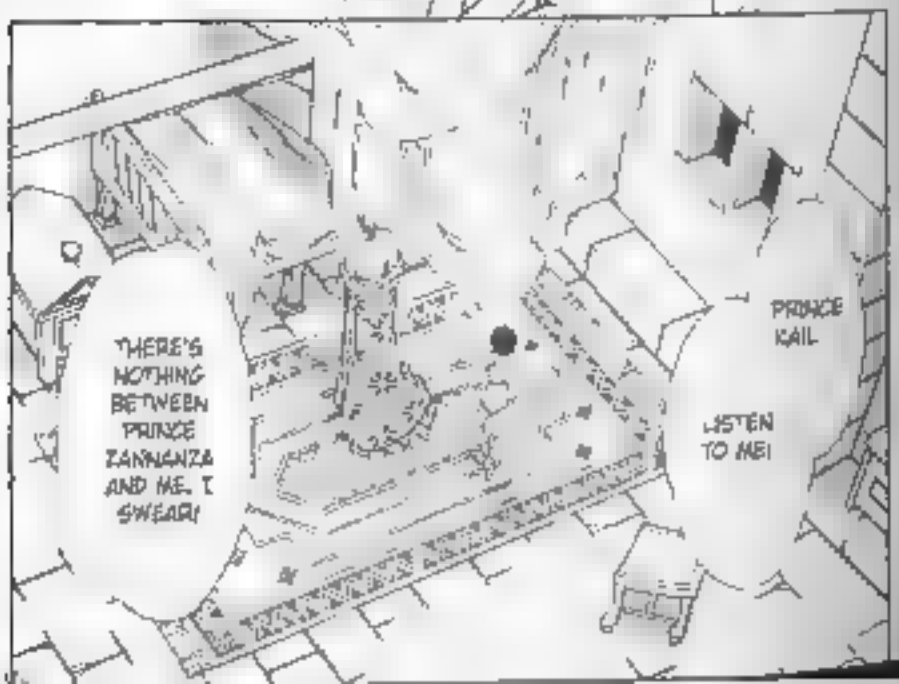
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL US THE NIGHANS WERE GOING TO ATTACK?
THEN TELL ME

OUR VICTORY IS PROOF THAT WHAT SHE SAYS IS TRUE.
WITH-OUT PRE-PARING? HE HAD TWICE THE FORCES WE HAD
COULD WE HAVE REPULSED THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS

WHAT A PREPOS-TEROUS LIE!
IS THIS TRUE?

THEY SAY YOU HAVE TO FOOL YOUR OWN PEOPLE IF YOU WISH TO FOOL YOUR ENEMY
AND ONE NEVER KNOWS WHOM ONE CAN TRUST IN WAR

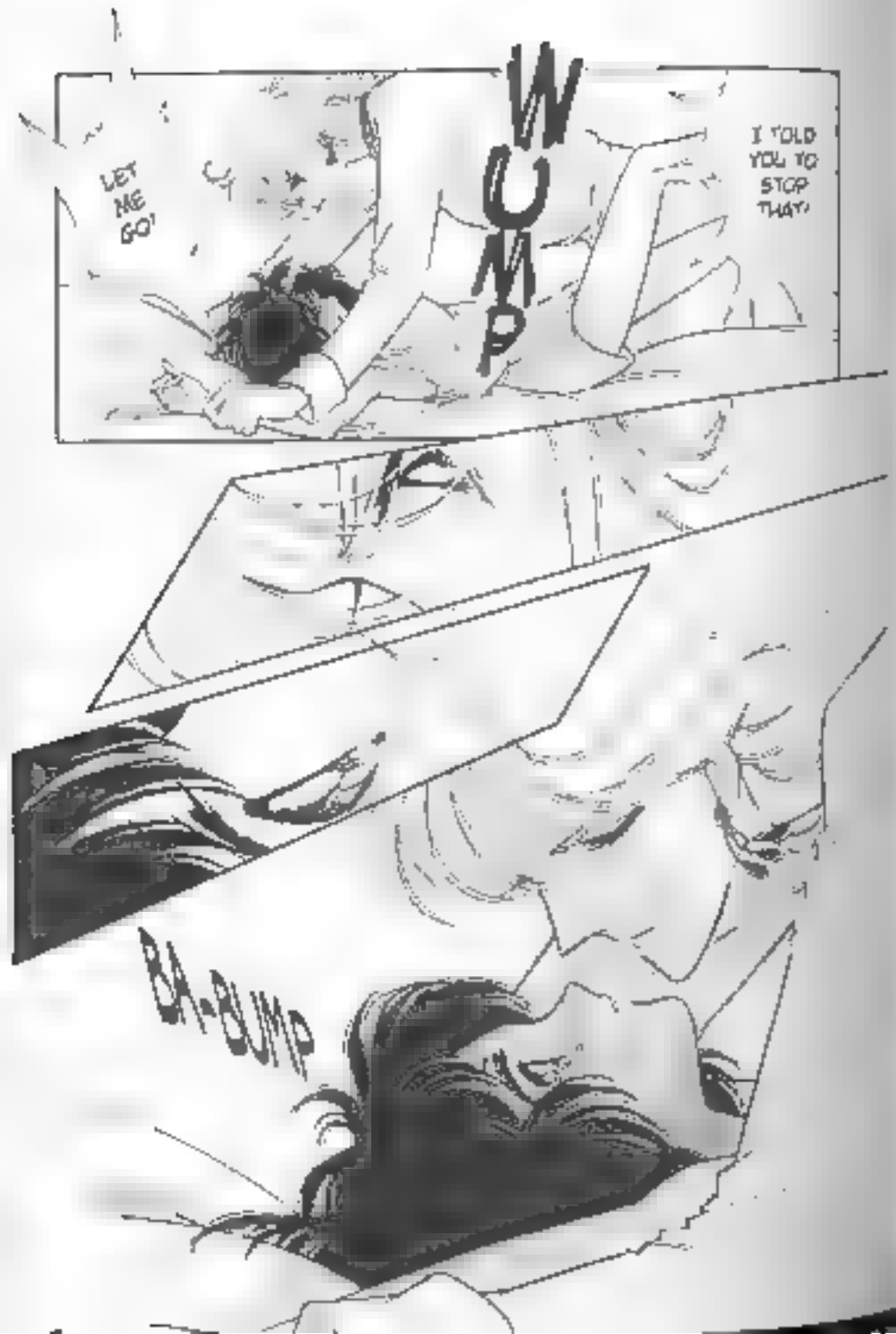
WAIT!
PRINCE KAIL!
DOES HE STILL THINK THERE'S SOMETHING BETWEEN PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME?
PRINCE KAIL
TMP


THERE'S NOTHING BETWEEN PRINCE ZANNANZA AND ME. I SWEAR!
PRINCE KAIL
LISTEN TO ME!

OH. THANK YOU.
THAT DAMN QUEEN. SHE USES EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO DESTROY US.
SWS

HÂH!!

THANK YOU, YURI.
YOU SAVED ME AGAIN.
NOT AT ALL, PRINCE ZANNANZA.
I'M JUST GLAD EVERYONE WAS SO EAGER TO BELIEVE MY STORY.


LET ME GO!
I TOLD YOU TO STOP THAT!
WUMP
BA-BUMP

THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME TODAY NOW PLEASE GO.
I SAID I BELIEVED YOU, DIDN'T I?
DON'T BE A BRAT! IF YOU'RE UPSET, LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!
WHAP
YURI?!
STOP THROWING THINGS AT ME, YOU SHIT FIRE
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND KANDATA.
AND IF YOU REALLY BELIEVE ME, WHY WON'T YOU LOOK ME IN THE EYE?

YOU'RE NOT SHORT OF GIRL-FRIENDS!
WHY DON'T YOU GO TO SLEEP WITH ONE OF THE OTHER PRINCESSES?
YOU JERK!!
WHAM
YURI?!
I'M SLEEPING IN HERE WITH YOU FROM NOW ON!
RYUL SHALA
HAH..
PRINCESS YURI?
WHAT?!

!!

WHAT?
YOU'RE RIGHT. I AM A SPIT-FIRE.
GO TO BED.
PRINCE KAIL?

PFFT!
WHAP

I'M SORRY BARLEY IS SCARCE THESE DAYS.
IF WAS ONLY ONE SHEKEL LAST WEEK!
WHAT DID YOU SAY? THREE SHEKELS FOR A BASKET OF BARLEY?
YOU GREEDY WOMAN!
THE SHORTAGE ISN'T MY FAULT
I'M SORRY THE CARAVANS FROM ASSYRIA HAVEN'T COME FOR SOME TIME. BARLEY IS SCARCE IN ALL OF HATTUSA.
SHE'S RIGHT
WE'RE GOOD CUSTOMERS!
GIVE US A BREAK!

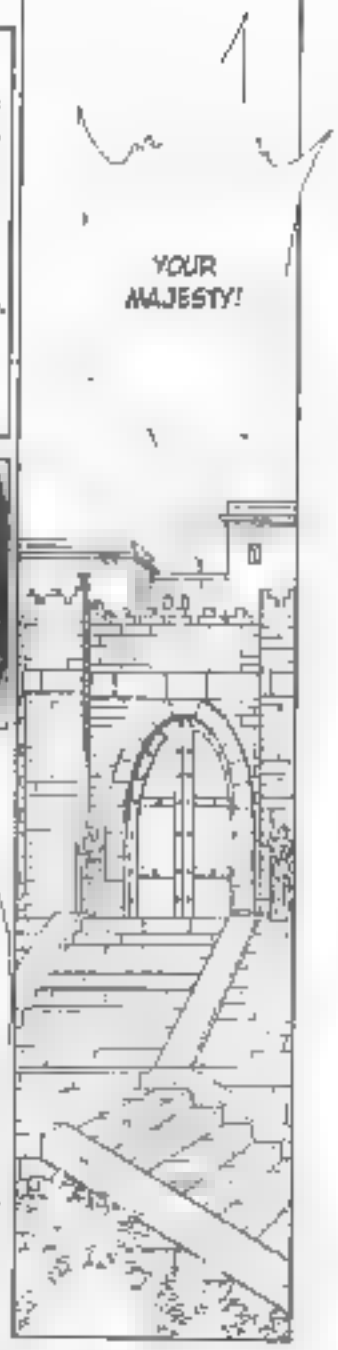
WHAT CAN I DO? YURI WILL EVENTUALLY GO BACK TO HER OWN LAND.
IF WE GET CLOSER, I WON'T BE ABLE TO LET HER GO
I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH. IF YOU STILL DOUBT ME, WHAT CAN I DO?

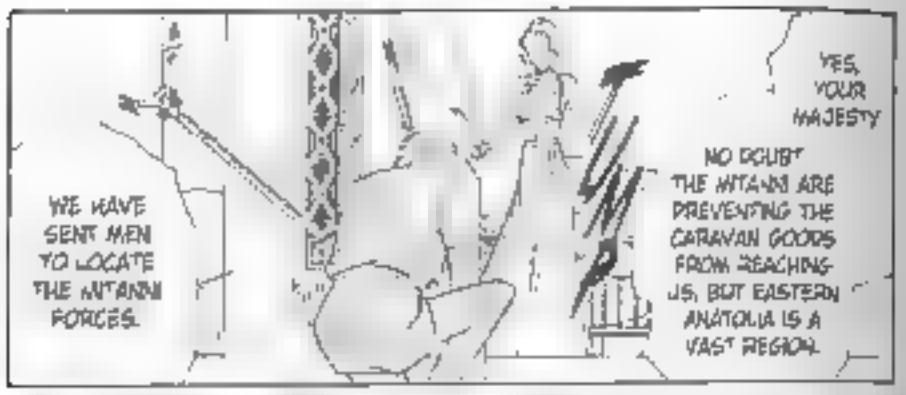
BUT WE'VE HAD NO WORD OF THEM SINCE THEY ENTERED EASTERN ANATOLIA.
WE DID.
AND WE ALSO KNOW THAT THEY PASSED THE PLACES WHERE THEY USUALLY STOP
ARE YOU SAYING,
THE GRAIN CARAVANS HAVE DIS-APPEARED?
DIS-APPEARED?

THE PEOPLE ARE RIOTING OVER THE PRICE OF BARLEY!
WHAT? DON'T WE HAVE SUFFICIENT BARLEY IN THE GRANARIES?

WELL NO CARAVANS HAVE COME FROM MESOPOTAMIA FOR A MONTH.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
DID WE NOT RECEIVE LETTERS FROM THE MERCHANTS INFORMING US OF THEIR DEPARTURE?


YOUR MAJESTY!

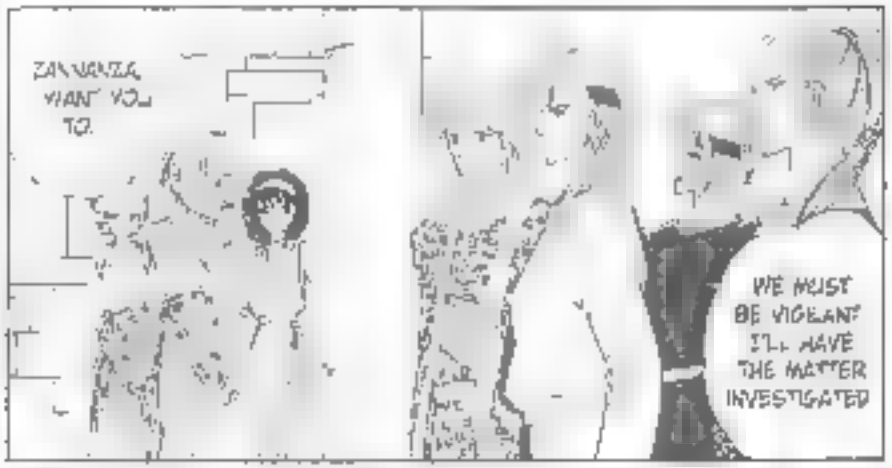

WE HAVE SENT MEN TO LOCATE THE MITANNI FORCES.
YES, YOUR MAJESTY
NO DOUBT THE MITANNI ARE PREVENTING THE CARAVAN GOODS FROM REACHING US, BUT EASTERN ANATOLIA IS A VAST REGION.

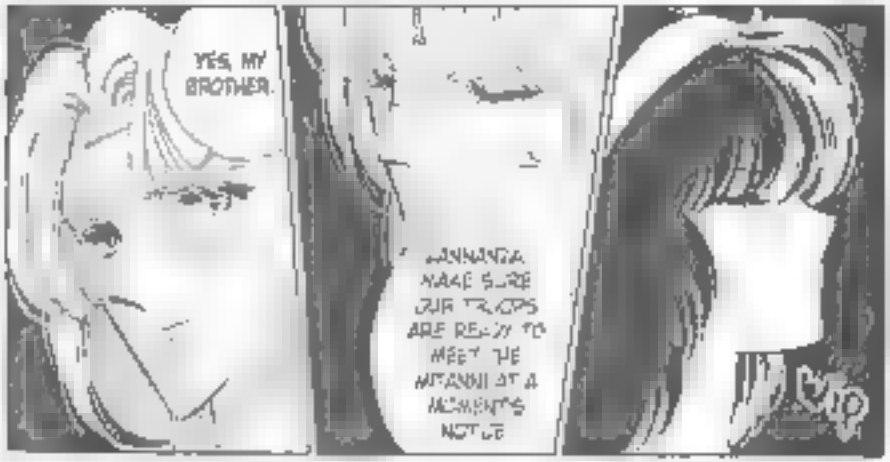
WOMEN OFTEN DO BECOME FIERCER DURING ONE TIME OF THE MONTH, DON'T THEY?
THE QUEEN SEEMS AGITATED
THAT WILL TAKE TOO LONG! GO FIND THOSE MISSING CARAVANS IMMEDIATELY!

THOSE LOST CARAVANS MUST HAVE SOME CONNECTION TO THAT
PRINCE KAIL
SHE GETS FIERCEST WHEN IT COMES TO THINGS AFFECTING THE ROYAL SUCCESSION.
THIS IS NO LAUGHING MATTER.

THE MITANNI HAVE STOLEN OUR GRAIN!
IF THE CARAVANS DISAPPEARED THERE, IT'S OBVIOUS THAT..
THAT AREA IS NEAR THE MITANNI BORDER.
YOU MUST SEND SOLDIERS TO EASTERN ANATOLIA AT ONCE!

I ADMIT IT I STARTED THE FIGHT BUT.

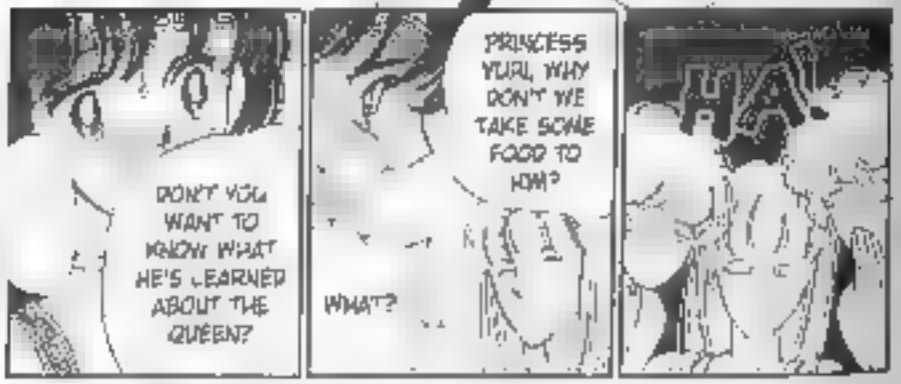

ZANNANZA, WANT YOU TO.
WE MUST BE VIGILANT I'LL HAVE THE MATTER INVESTIGATED


YES, MY BROTHER.
ZANNANZA, MAKE SURE OUR TROOPS ARE READY TO MEET THE MIYANOI AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE

THINGS HAVE GOTTEN WORSE
HAVEN'T PRINCE KAIL AND PRINCESS YURI MADE UP YET?

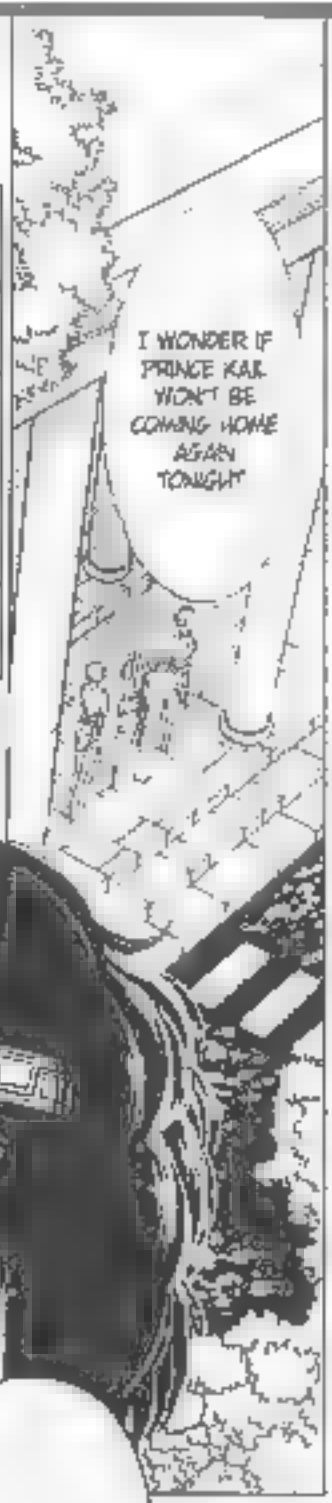
YES. KIKKURI SAID AS MUCH TO ME
PRINCESS YURI!
HADI.
DO YOU THINK SO?

MAYBE IT'S TIME I STOPPED SULKING.
I HOPE HE DOESN'T GET SICK FROM OVER-WORK.
THEN PRINCE KAIL HAS A LOT TO WORRY ABOUT


DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT HE'S LEARNED ABOUT THE QUEEN?
PRINCESS YURI, WHY DON'T WE TAKE SOME FOOD TO HIM?
WHAT?
HA!

WE KNOW FAKING FOOT TO HIM GIVES YOU AN EXCUSE, RIGHT?
I ONLY WANT TO KNOW WHAT NAKIA'S UP TO.
I'M SURE PRINCE KAIL WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO SEE US.

REMEMBER HOW SHE DEMANDED THAT THE CARAVANS BE FOUND? SHE'S STILL RANTING ON ABOUT IT.
WHAT?
AND THE QUEEN IS PLOTTING SOME-THING, TOO.
HE IS SO BUSY WITH THE COUNCIL OF WAR.


I WONDER IF PRINCE KAIL WON'T BE COMING HOME AGAIN TONIGHT

FROM BABYLONIA?
I THINK THEY WERE BRINGING HER SOMETHING FROM BABYLONIA.
SHE FEARS SOMETHING SHE SENT FOR MAY BE LOST

PRINCESS YURI.
WHY DON'T WE WAIT FOR THE PRINCE~

PRINCESS YURI?!
WHOOSH

JUST AS I THOUGHT.
I HAVE.
NO ONE WILL DISTURB US HERE.
THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT WHATEVER IT IS SHE ORDERED FROM BABYLONIA.
HAVE YOU DISCOVERED WHERE THE ITEM IS, URH?

THAT WAS THE QUEEN AND HER SERVANT, URH!
YES, YES.
I TOLD YOU I DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM.
PRINCE KAIL IS STILL IN HIS WAR COUNCIL.
WHERE ARE THEY GOING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE COUNCIL?

WHO IS THERE?!

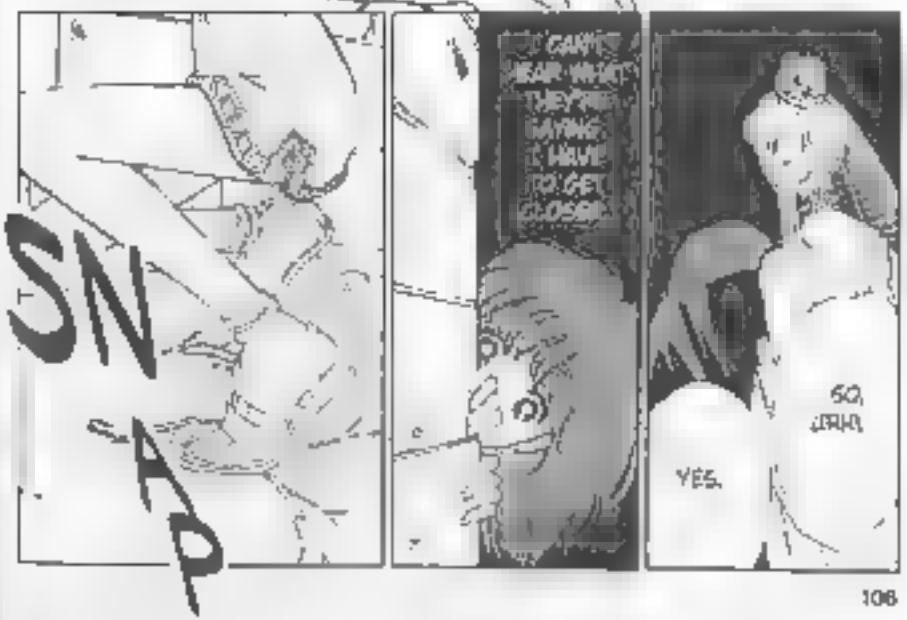
URHI
WHO-EVER IS SPYING ON US..
MUST DIE.

DAMN.

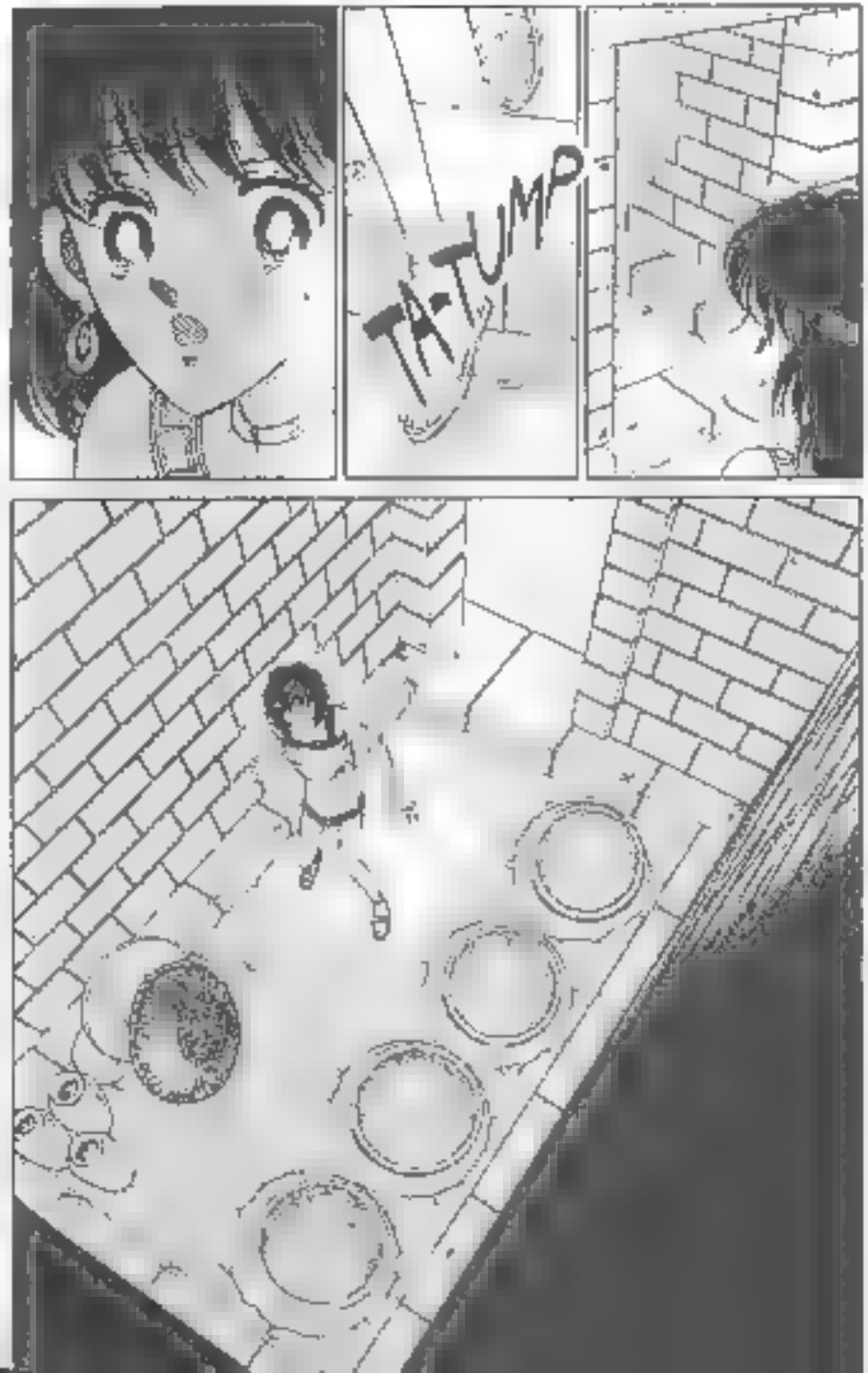
WHAT DO I DO?

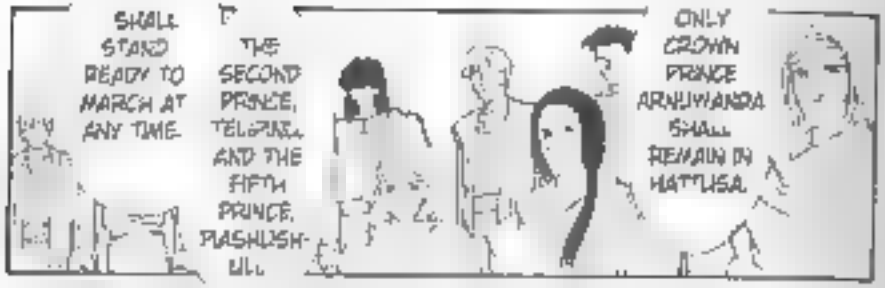
THEN THE MITANNI DO HAVE IT?
PROBABLY SO
ACCORD-ING TO THE SURVIVORS OF THE CARA-VAN.
THEY WERE ATTACKED BY MITANNI SOLDIERS AND...

IT MIGHT HELP PRINCE KAIL IF I FOUND THAT OUT
I WONDER WHAT IT IS?


SNAP
I CAN'T HEAR WHAT THEY'RE SAYING. I HAVE TO GET CLOSER.
SO, URHI.
YES.

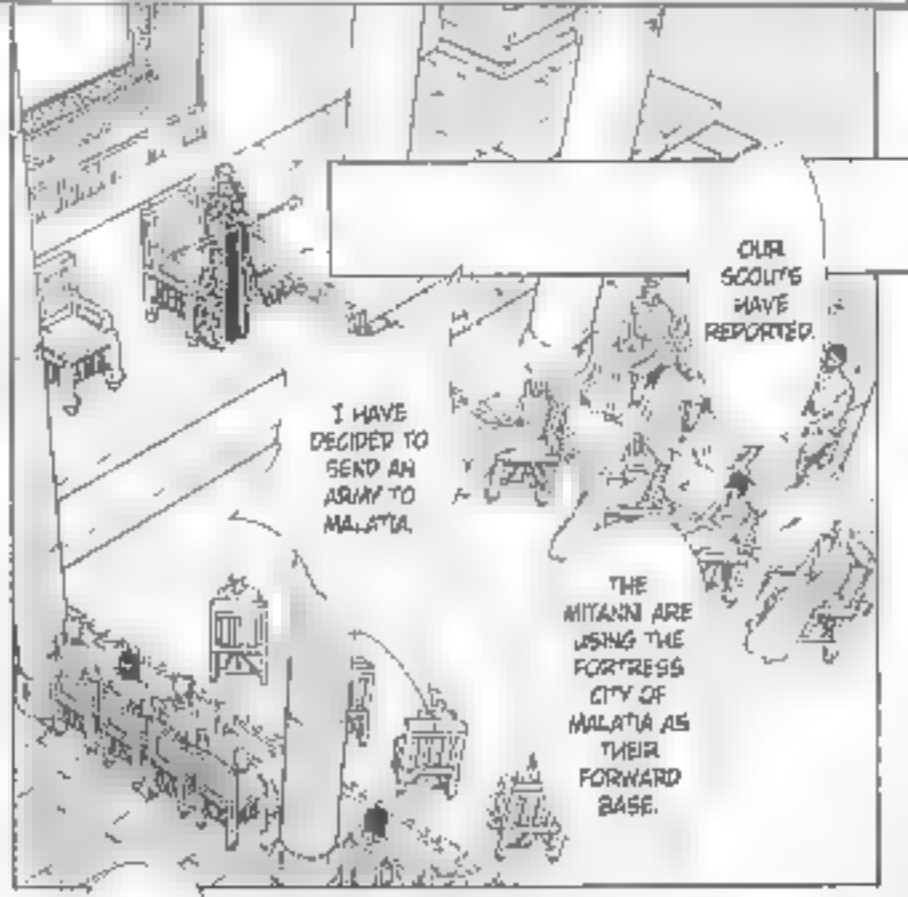
THERE'S NOWHERE TO HIDE.
GASP
SHE'S IN THE STORE-ROOM.
SHE CAN'T ESCAPE


TA-TUMP


SHALL STAND READY TO MARCH AT ANY TIME.
THE SECOND PRINCE, TELIPINU, AND THE FIFTH PRINCE, PIASHUSHILI.
ONLY CROWN PRINCE ARNUWANDA SHALL REMAIN IN HATTUSA.

YOUR MAJESTY
THIS IS A LARGE FORCE TO ATTACK ONLY MALATIA.

CORRECT MALATIA IS NOT OUR ONLY TARGET
OUR OBJECTIVE IS THE DESTRUCTION OF THE MITANNI KINGDOM!
!!

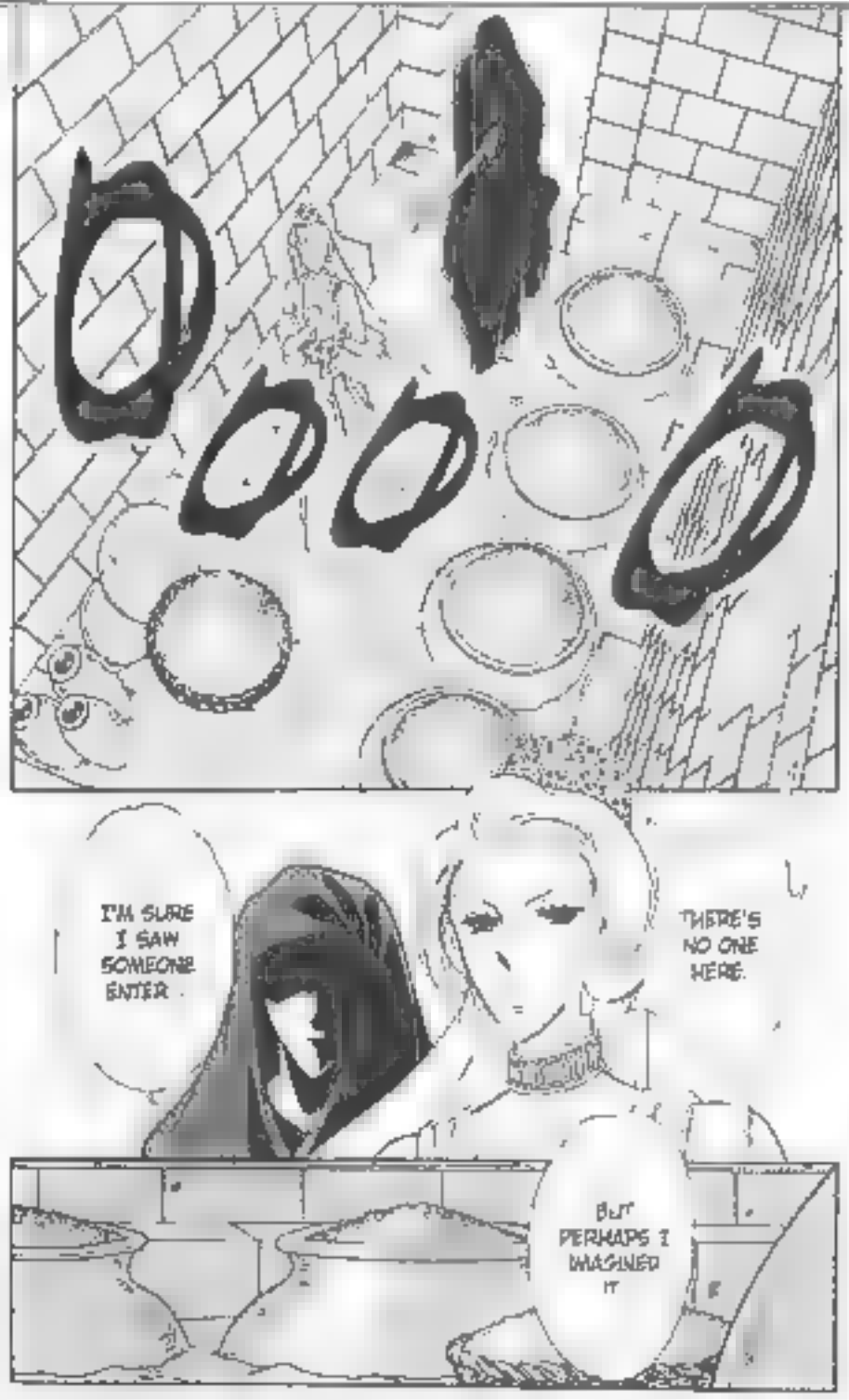

I HAVE DECIDED TO SEND AN ARMY TO MALATIA.
OUR SCOUTS HAVE REPORTED
THE MITANNI ARE USING THE FORTRESS CITY OF MALATIA AS THEIR FORWARD BASE.

PRINCE ZANNANZA HATTUSILI, YOU SHALL LEAD A SECOND ARMY
YES, YOUR MAJESTY!
YES, YOUR MAJESTY!
PRINCE KAIL MURSIL.
YOU SHALL LEAD THAT FORCE

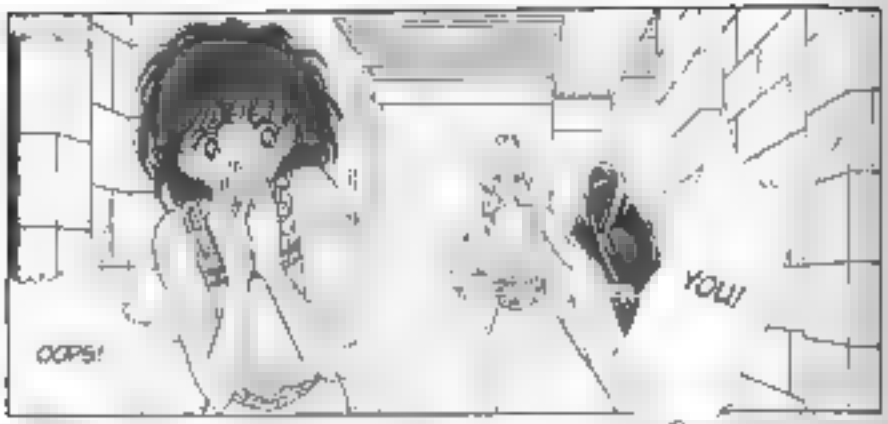
PRINCE KAIL. CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING GIVEN COMMAND OF THE ARMY
AND WITH PRINCESS YURI ON OUR SIDE, WE'RE SURE TO WIN THE WAR.
ISN'T SHE HERE IN THE PALACE, HADI?
YES, BUT SHE HAS SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED!
PRINCE KAIL.
HAVE YOU SEEN PRINCESS YURI?

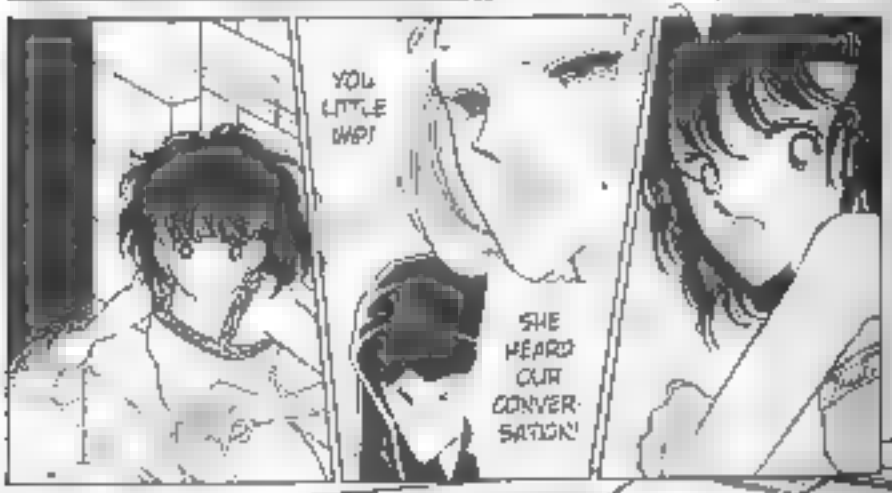
I WILL JOIN YOU IN THE FIELD LATER ON.
MUR MUR
THE EMPEROR IS GOING LEAD TROOPS!

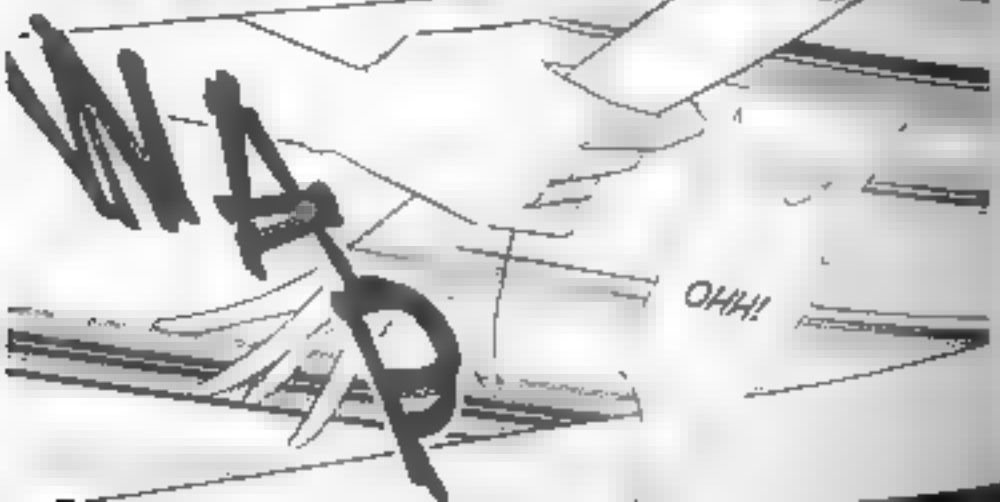
I TIRE OF FIGHTING THE MOHAWK.
WITH OUR NEW WEAPONS OF IRON, WE CAN END THESE WASTEFUL CONFLICTS ONCE AND FOR ALL.
I DON'T CARE HOW LONG IT TAKES.
YOU WILL NOT RETURN TO HATTUSA UNTIL YOU HAVE SENT KING TUSHRATTA TO THE UNDERWORLD!


I'M SURE I SAW SOMEONE ENTER.
THERE'S NO ONE HERE.
BUT PERHAPS I IMAGINED IT

OH...
IF ONLY I HAD THE DRAGON'S EYE.
PERHAPS WE'RE A BIT OVER-WROUGHT
I'D NEED WORRY ABOUT KAIL NO MORE.
I MUST GET MY HANDS ON IT!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE


OOPS!
YOU!


YOU LITTLE IMP!
SHE HEARD OUR CONVERSATION!

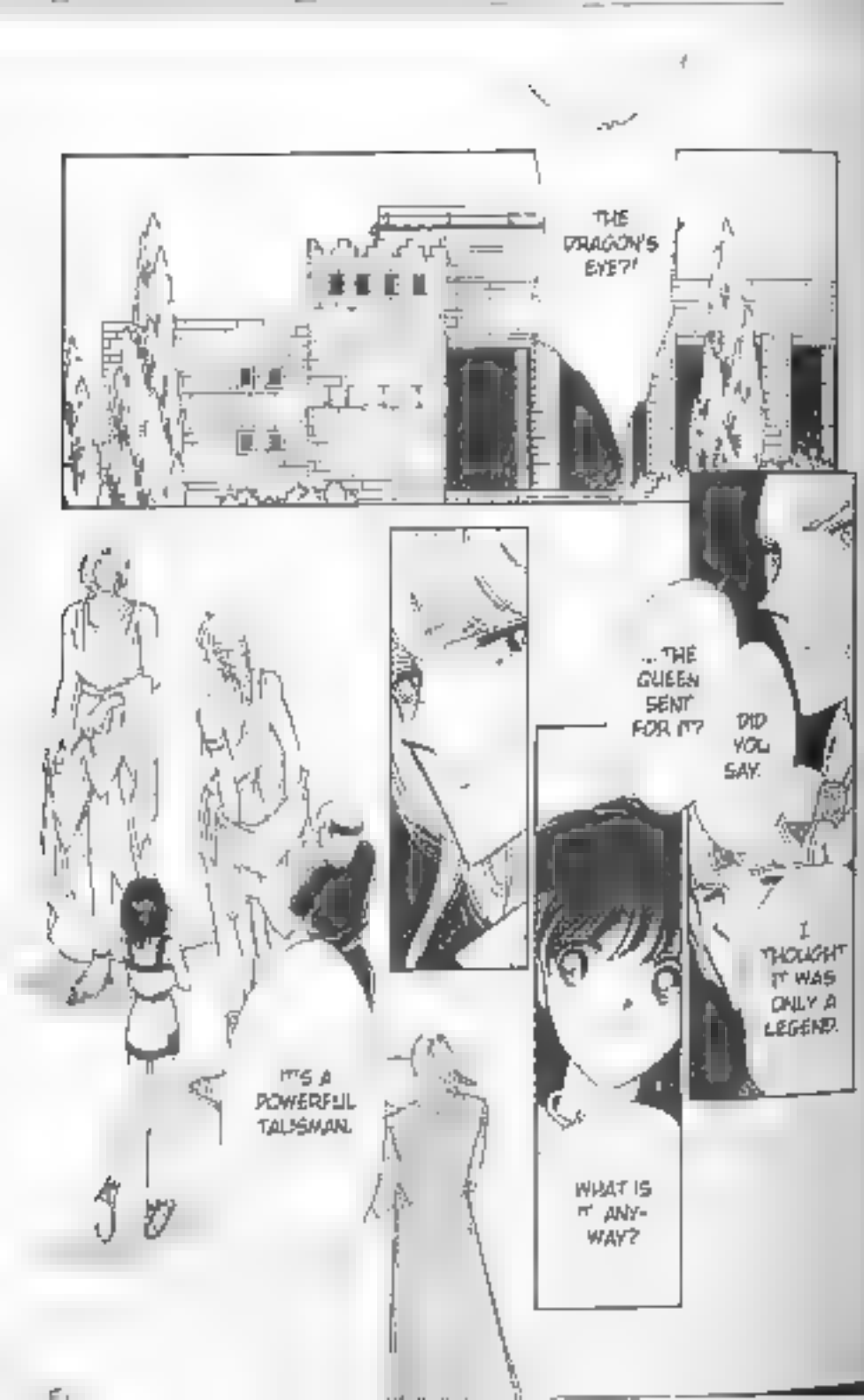

WAP
OHH!

KRSHHH
THE DRAGON'S EYE?

AH-TCHOO!
OH! THIS WHEAT DUST
GERK
IF THE EVIL QUEEN WANTS IT I'D BETTER TELL PRINCE KAL
I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT IS. BUT...

WHY WAS YOUR CONCUBINE LURKING IN THE STORE-ROOM?
THAT'S WHAT I WOULD ASK YOU
GRRR
IT'S UNSEEMLY FOR A QUEEN AND HER HENCHMAN TO CHASE GIRLS ABOUT THE PALACE WITH SWORDS.
PLEASE RETURN TO THE PALACE, QUEEN KAIA.
SOMETHING WRONG, YOUR MAJESTY?
AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH, YOU KNOW?
I TOLD HER TO SEE HOW MUCH GRAIN WE HAVE
SWOOSH
YOU'D BE WISE TO KEEP HER LOCKED AWAY IN YOUR PALACE.
IT'S ALSO UNSEEMLY FOR A CONCUBINE TO WANDER THESE HALLS UNATTENDED!

PRINCE KAIL!
KAIL!
HAS MY PRINCESS DONE SOMETHING?
YOUR MAJESTY


THE DRAGON'S EYE?!
.. THE QUEEN SENT FOR IT?
DID YOU SAY.
I THOUGHT IT WAS ONLY A LEGEND.
IT'S A POWERFUL TALISMAN.
WHAT IS IT ANY-WAY?

OR. PRINCE.
PRINCE KAIL
SWISH
NOW KAIL WILL KNOW ABOUT THE DRAGON'S EYE.
DAMN!

IT IS SAID THAT THE DRAGON'S EYE CAN CONTROL PEOPLE'S WILLS.
THE POSSESSOR CAN CONTROL ANYONE.
IT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC IF THE MITANNI HAD IT
THE MITANNI ?
BUT THEY SAID THAT THE MITANNI HAVE STOLEN IT
STILL, I'M ASTONISHED THAT THE DRAGON'S EYE ACTUALLY EXISTS.
WITH IT NAKIA COULD RULE THE ENTIRE EMPIRE.
CONTROL PEOPLE'S WILLS?

YOU MEAN WE'RE GOING AFTER THE DRAGON'S EYE?
IT SEEMS.
THAT OUR EXPEDITIONARY FORCE HAS YET ANOTHER TASK.
GOOD IDEA!
WE CAN'T LET THE QUEEN OR THE MITANNI GET TO IT!
WE'LL START PREPARING FOR WAR AT ONCE
AND WE CANNOT FAIL, WITH THE GODDESS OF WAR ON OUR SIDE!

I SHALL NOT TAKE YUKI TO WAR WITH ME
SHE WILL REMAIN HERE IN HATTUSA.

WHAT?
SHE CANNOT DEPART FROM ANY OTHER LOCATION.
FOR YUKI TO RETURN TO HER COUNTRY, SHE MUST GO THROUGH HATTUSA'S SPRINGS, OUT OF WHICH SHE ARRIVED

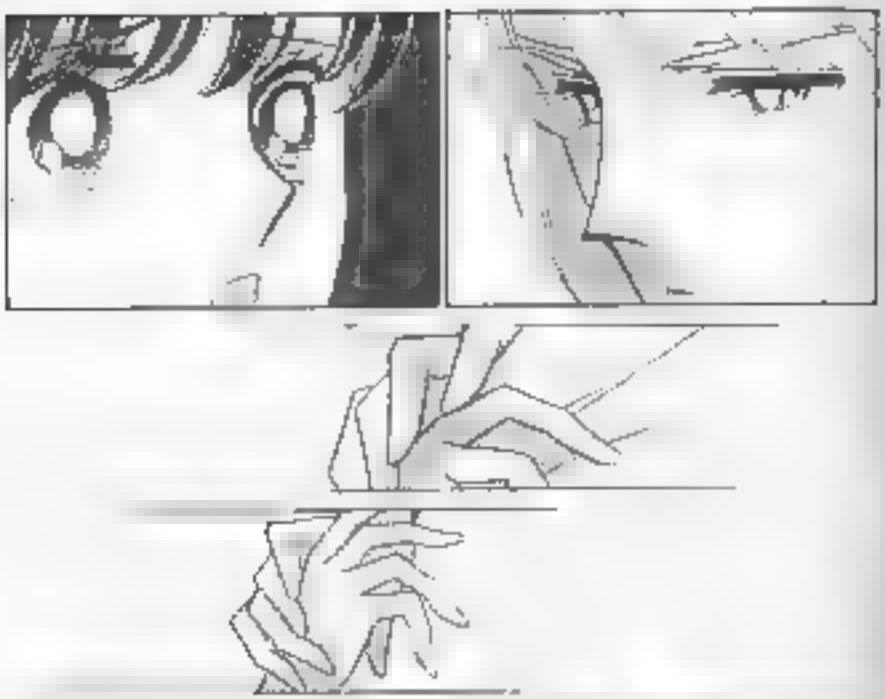
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
THAT'S... THAT'S RIGHT HE'S RIGHT. BUT...
!!
IT'S DANGEROUS FOR HER TO REMAIN FAR FROM HATTUSA FOR LONG.

REMAIN IN HATTUSA.
YOU SHALL

I CAN HANDLE MALATIA!
I'VE ALREADY SURVIVED ALUNA AND KIZILWATNA.
WHAT?!
PLEASE TAKE ME WITH YOU!

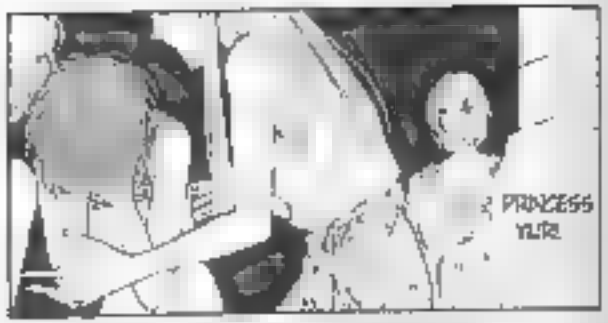
YOU WILL BE ABLE TO GO HOME EVEN IF I'M NOT HERE.
THERE ARE HIGH PRIESTS OTHER THAN THE QUEEN AND I IN HATTUSA.
TEN MONTHS FROM NOW THE SEASON OF WATER WILL COME TO HATTUSA AND ISHTAR WILL RISE IN THE HEAVENS.
LESS THAN A YEAR.
IF WE PART NOW, WE MAY NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN!
LEAVE WITHOUT YOU HERE?
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT BEING ATTACKED BY THE QUEEN!
I SHALL ASSIGN TRUSTED GUARDS TO PROTECT YOU.
THE QUEEN CAN'T GET AT YOU VERY EASILY
DON'T WORRY
I WANT TO BE WITH YOU! PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME BEHIND!

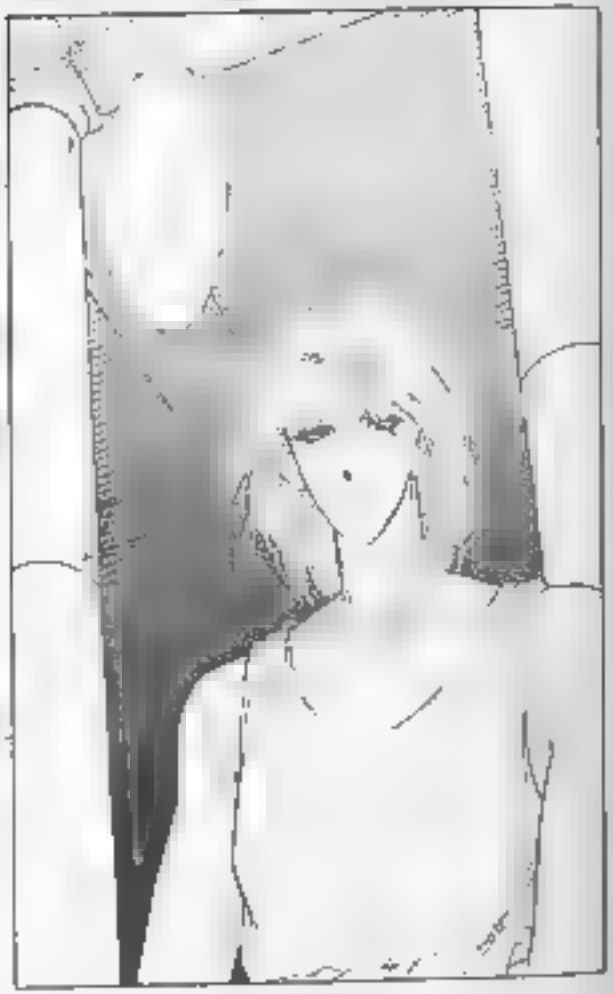
IT WILL BE A LONG WAR. WE COULD BE GONE FOR YEARS.
YEARS?
WE CAN'T RETURN TO HATTUSA UNTIL THE HITTANT HAVE BEEN DESTROYED
THIS WAR WILL BE DIFFERENT FROM THOSE BATTLES, YUEL.
YUEL
YOU'LL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO YOUR COUNTRY IN A YEAR.



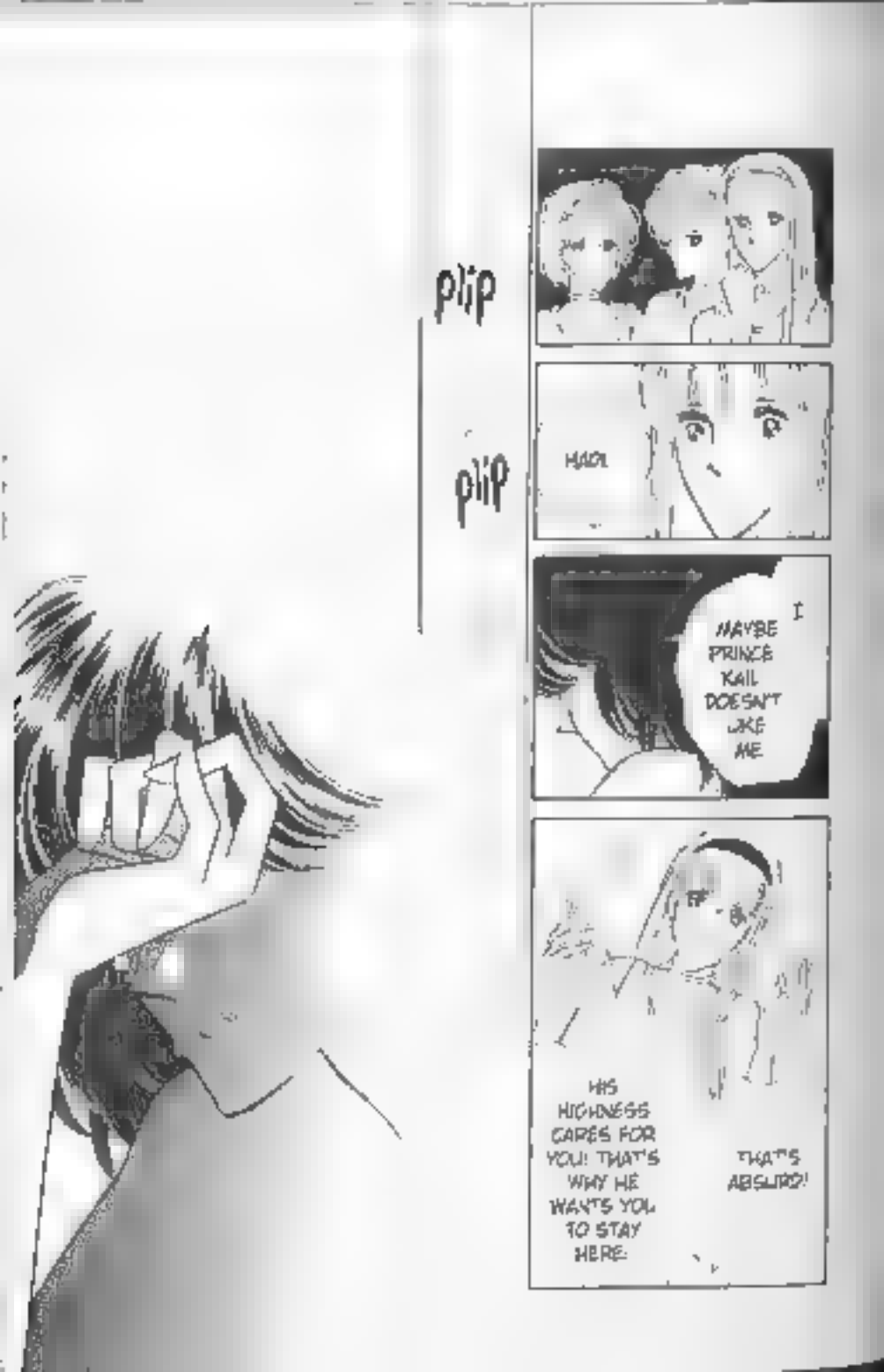
YOU SHOULD STAY HERE AND RETURN TO THIS "JAPAN" OF YOURS.
IF YOU CAME WITH ME, YOU MIGHT MISS YOUR CHANCE TO GO HOME

I KNOW THAT
I DON'T BELONG HERE. MY FAMILY IS WAITING FOR ME BACK IN JAPAN.
I KNOW
I HAVE TO GO HOME
I DON'T WANT TO STAY IN HATTUSA WITHOUT YOU.
BUT I CAN ONLY STAND TO LIVE HERE BECAUSE OF YOU.


PRINCESS YUNA



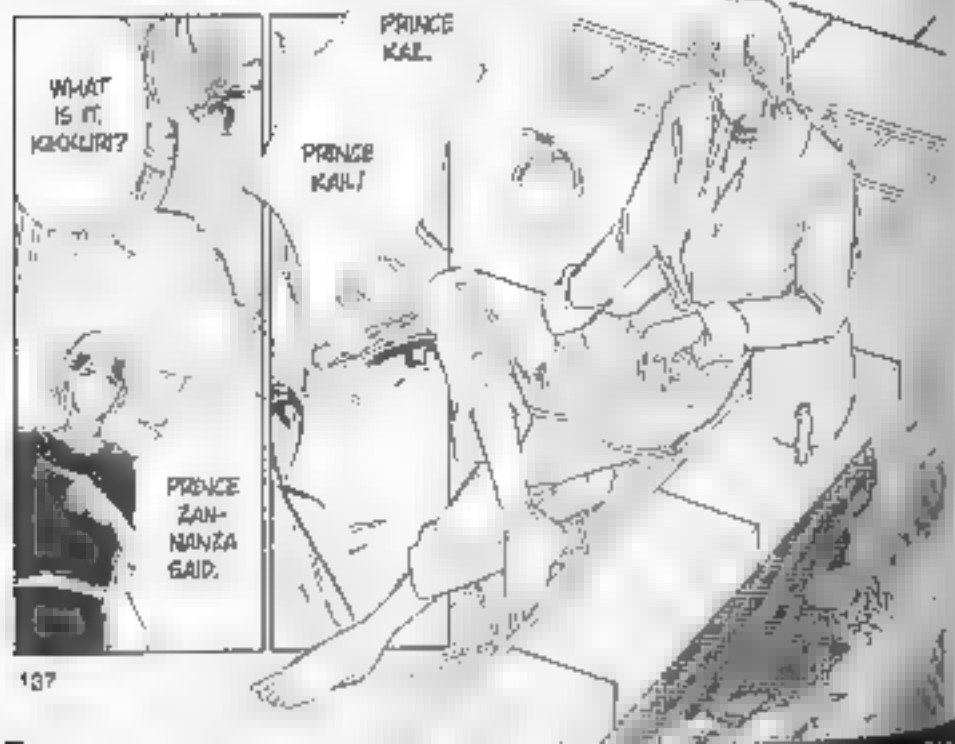
PRINCE KAIL!
PRINCE KAIL!
TAKE ME WITH YOU!!
NO!!


plip
plip
HAOL
MAYBE PRINCE KAIL DOESN'T LIKE ME
I
HIS HIGHNESS CARES FOR YOU! THAT'S WHY HE WANTS YOU TO STAY HERE.
THAT'S ABSURD!

PRINCESS YUEL
OH, GIRLS..
NOT AT ALL.
SORRY I WORRIED YOU EARLIER.
I'M ALL RIGHT.
I'LL DO WHAT THE PRINCE WANTS.
HE WAS RIGHT
I SHOULD STAY HERE AND WAIT FOR ISHTAR TO RISE TEN MONTHS FROM NOW.

KIK-KURI.
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD WARN MY BROTHER.
WHAT?!

SOB
SOB
SOB
OH, KAI!
I ONLY GAVE UP ON YURI BECAUSE SHE BELONGED TO MY BROTHER.
HMM.

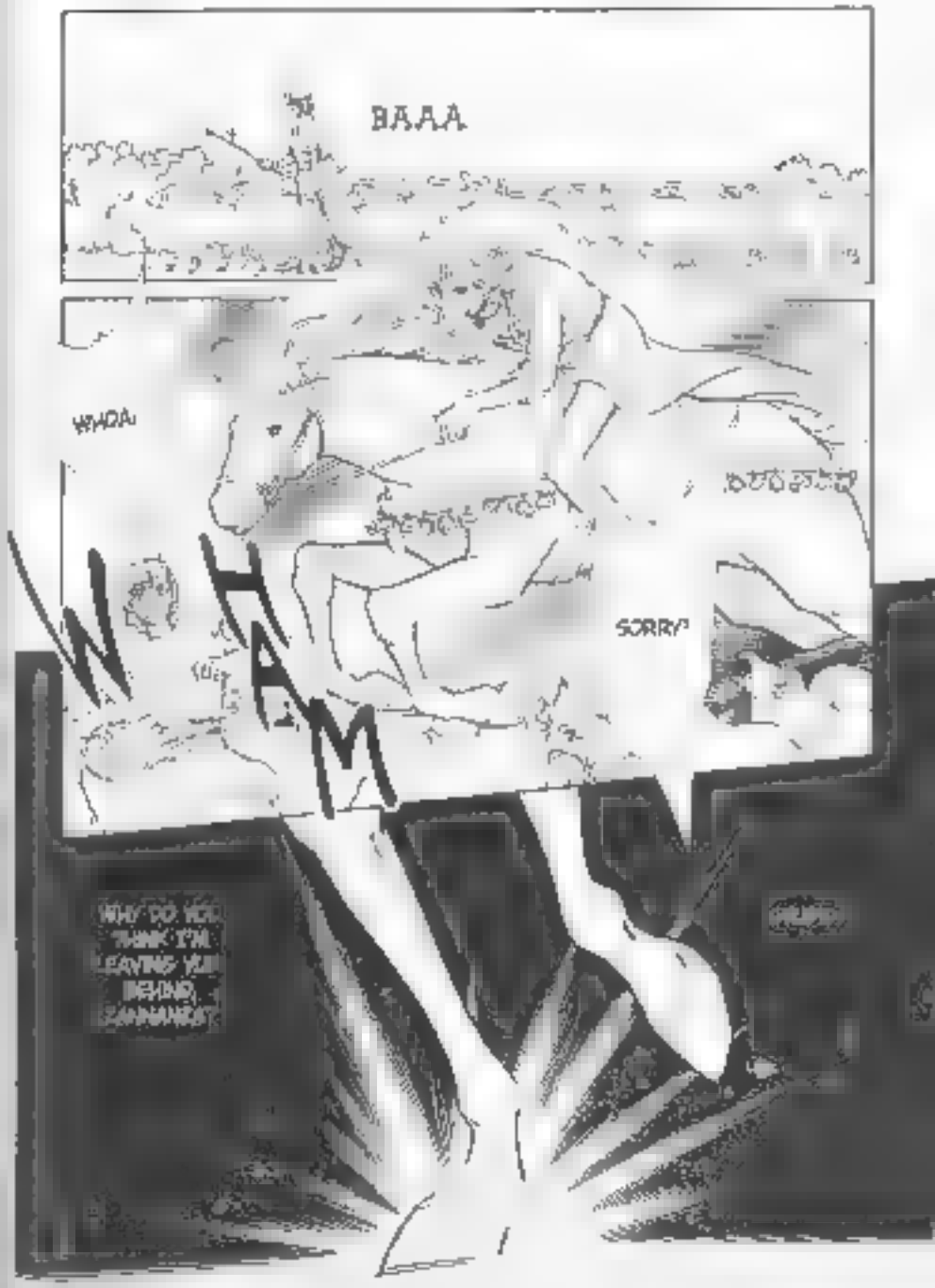

PRINCE KAI.
WHAT IS IT, KIKKURI?
PRINCE KAI!
PRINCE ZAN-NANZA SAID.

PRINCE ZANNAN-ZA?!
BUT NOW THAT HE'S LEFT HER, I CAN TAKE HER WITH ME.

HE SAID HE WAS GOING BACK TO KANESH.
TO ORGANIZE HIS FORCES FOR THE WAR.
WELL.
WHERE DID HE TAKE HER?!
A HORSE!
BRING ME A HORSE!
OPEN THE GATE!
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP

HE SAID HE TRULY INTENDS TO TAKE HER WITH HIM.
HE WAS GOING TO TAKE PRINCESS YURI WITH HIM.
WHAT?
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
WE WE TRIED TO STOP HIM, BUT
PRINCE ZANNANZA CAME JUST NOW AND CARRIED PRINCESS YURI AWAY!
WHERE IS YURI?!
PRINCE KAIL
YURI.

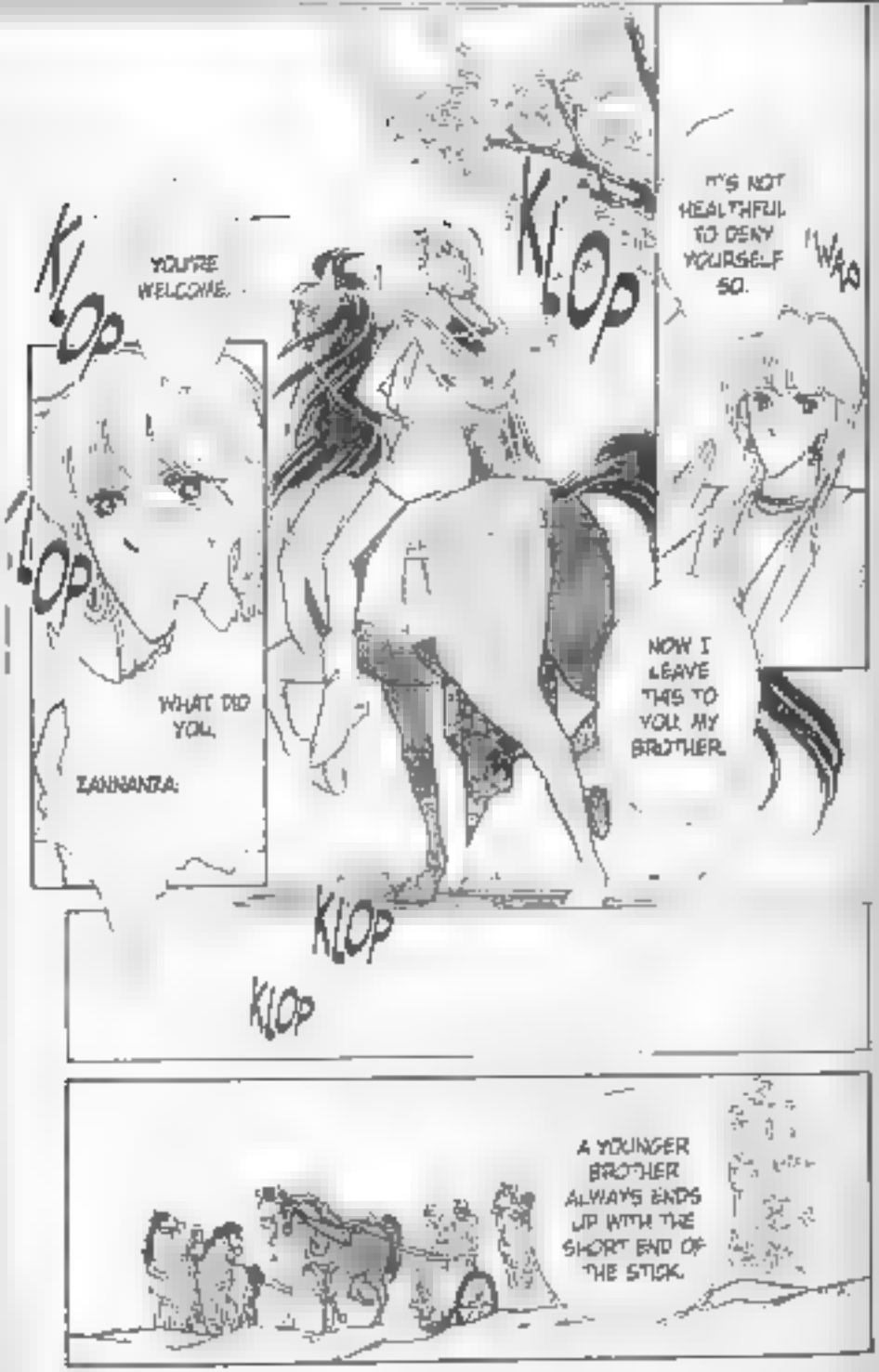
I'M ONLY DOING IT SO THAT SHE CAN GO HOME
YOU'D BETTER NOT HAVE TOUCHED HER, ZANNAHZA!
NOT BECAUSE I DON'T WANT HER!
IF YOU HAVE, I WON'T FORGIVE YOU! THIS TIME!


BAAA
WHOA!
WHAM
SORRY!
WHY DO YOU THINK I'M LEAVING YOU BEHIND, ZANNAHZA?

KLOP
THEIR HORSES!
AGAH!
ZANNANZA, STOP!
YUKI!!
I WON'T GIVE YUKI UP TO ANYONE!

HEH
SHOULDN'T WE HAVE COME?
PRINCE ZANNANZIA WAS TRYING TO CHEER ME UP
WE'RE HAVING A PICNIC
HADY AND HER SISTERS MADE LUNCH FOR US.
WHY AM I HERE? AREN'T YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?!
THOSE.
BETRAYED PRINCE KAL!
...CONSPIR-ATORS!

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
BUT BUGS ARE FALLING ON ME
IT'S THE FASTEST WAY TO GET THE FRUIT OFF THE TREE
AAAH!
DON'T, PRINCE ZANNANZA! PLEASE!
OH. HELLO, BROTHER. YOU CAME SOONER THAN I EXPECTED.
PRINCE KAL? WHY ARE YOU HERE?


KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
YOU'RE WELCOME.
WHAT DID YOU, ZANNANZA.
IT'S NOT HEALTHFUL TO DENY YOURSELF SO.
I WAS
NOW I LEAVE THIS TO YOU, MY BROTHER.
A YOUNGER BROTHER ALWAYS ENDS UP WITH THE SHORT END OF THE STICK.

BRO-THER.
I AM YOUR FAVORITE BROTHER, RIGHT?
AND YOUR RIGHT-HAND MAN.
WHAT'S YOUR POINT?
HOW CAN YOU LEAVE HER?
YET YOU CAME RIDING UP LOOKING LIKE YOU WANTED TO KILL ME.
IF YOU CARE ABOUT HER THAT MUCH...
I KNOW THAT YOU ARE A MAN OF STRONG WILL, BUT

TEN MONTHS.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I'LL STAY IN HATTUSA AS YOU WISH.

SO I SHALL OUTSHINE MY BROTHER IN THIS WAR AND THE BEAUTIFUL MITANNI WOMEN WILL FLOCK TO ME
QUITE
HAVE A SAFE JOURNEY YOUR HIGHNESS.
NOW I'M GOING BACK TO KANESH.
I'LL SEE YOU IN MALATIA.
NO.
KLAK
DO YOU NEED ANYTHING?
FAREWELL, ILBANI.

SO.
COME WITH ME.
WHAT?
I PROMISE WE'LL BE BACK IN TEN MONTHS SO THAT YOU CAN GO HOME
PRINCE KAI.

I'M GOING TO FINISH THE MITANNI IN TEN MONTHS.
WHAT?

FORGET WHAT I SAID. I WILL END THIS WAR IN TEN MONTHS AND RETURN TO HATTUSA IN TRIUMPH.
YOU SAID THIS WAR WOULD TAKE YEARS TO FINISH.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

YURI...
COME WITH ME.

OH, PRINCE KAIL!

CAN I REALLY COME WITH YOU?

PRINCE KAIL.

PRINCE.

I CAN'T BREATHE.

I DIDN'T WANT

TO PREVENT YOU FROM GOING HOME.

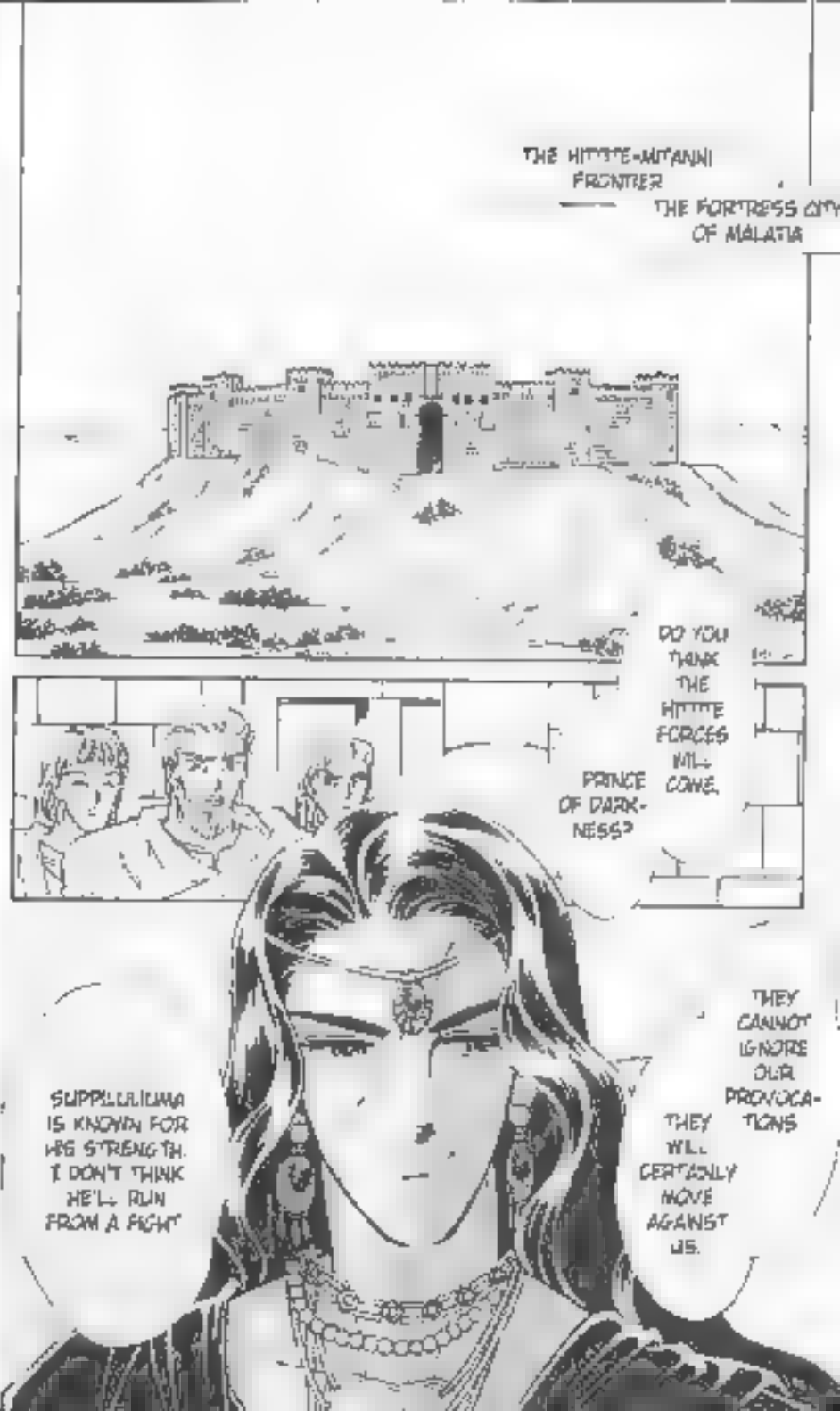
YOU MEAN

BUT AS LONG AS YOU ARE HERE I WANT YOU WITH ME.

I DON'T WANT TO LET YOU GO.

THANK YOU, PRINCE KAILI
I WILL DESTROY THE MITAKNI IN TEN MONTHS.
FOR YOU.

THE ONE CALLED KAIL MURSIL.
ANY-WAY
YES, MY PRINCE?
HIS BLOOD WILL BE A GOOD FORETASTE OF OUR CONQUEST OF THE REGION.
I DON'T CARE SO MUCH ABOUT THAT OLD MAN, BUT I DO HOPE TO MEET HIS SON IN BATTLE AGAIN.


THE HITTITE-MITANNI FRONTIER
THE FORTRESS CITY OF MALATIA
DO YOU THINK THE HITTITE FORCES WILL COME,
PRINCE OF DARK-NESS?
SUPPILULIUMA IS KNOWN FOR HIS STRENGTH. I DON'T THINK HE'LL RUN FROM A FIGHT
THEY CANNOT IGNORE OUR PROVOCA-TIONS
THEY WILL CERTAINLY MOVE AGAINST US.

WHIN
NY
WOW!

KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
PRINCESS YURI!
PLEASE WAIT IT IS DANGEROUS TO RIDE AROUND ALONE.
JUST TO THE TOP OF THE HILL!

WHAT A MAGNIFICENT ARMY!
IT'S SPECTACULAR!
SHE'S LIABLE TO RIDE ALL THE WAY TO MALATIA.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
BRING YURI BACK.
WE'LL CAMP HERE TONIGHT

YES.
NOW PRINCE KAIL MURSIL LEADS THE ARMIES. HOW APPROPRIATE.
THIS IS THE LARGEST EXPEDITIONARY FORCE SINCE KING MURSIL THE FIRST.
..CONQUERED THE CAPITAL OF BABYLONIA. PRINCE KAIL WAS NAMED FOR HIM.

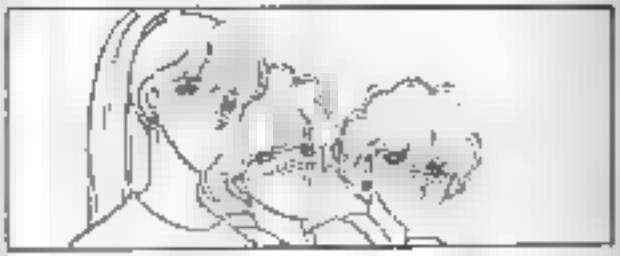
I AM DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU.
I AM RUSAFA. I COMMAND THE ARCHERS.
I AM KASH. COMMANDER OF THE CHARIOTS.
I AM HONORED
HOW DO YOU DO.
I AM MITTANAMWA, COMMANDER OF THE INFANTRY

YOU SNEAKY BASTARD
PRINCESS YURI, LOOK
PLEASE... ALLOW ME TO RECEIVE ISHTAR'S BLESSING

I AM.
ARE YOU COMING TOO, ILBANI?

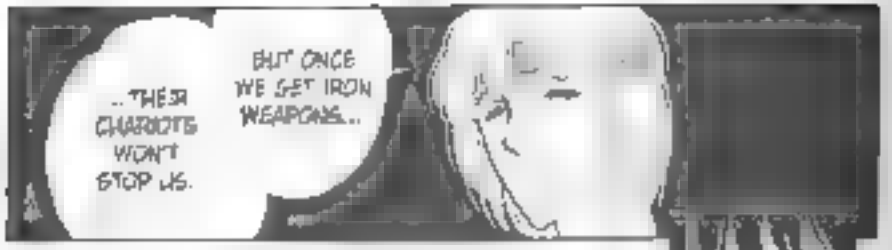
I WANT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO MY OFFICERS.
CAMPAIGNS LIKE THIS AREN'T WON BY SOLDIERS ALONE. YOU NEED COOKS AND CRAFTSMEN, TOO
YURI, COME
AND I SHALL CHRONICLE IT ALL FOR POSTERITY

HEH HEH
YOU MUST BE PRINCESS YURI. I AM SHARMA.
THE BLESSINGS OF THE THOUSAND HITTITE GODS BE UPON YOU, LADIES.



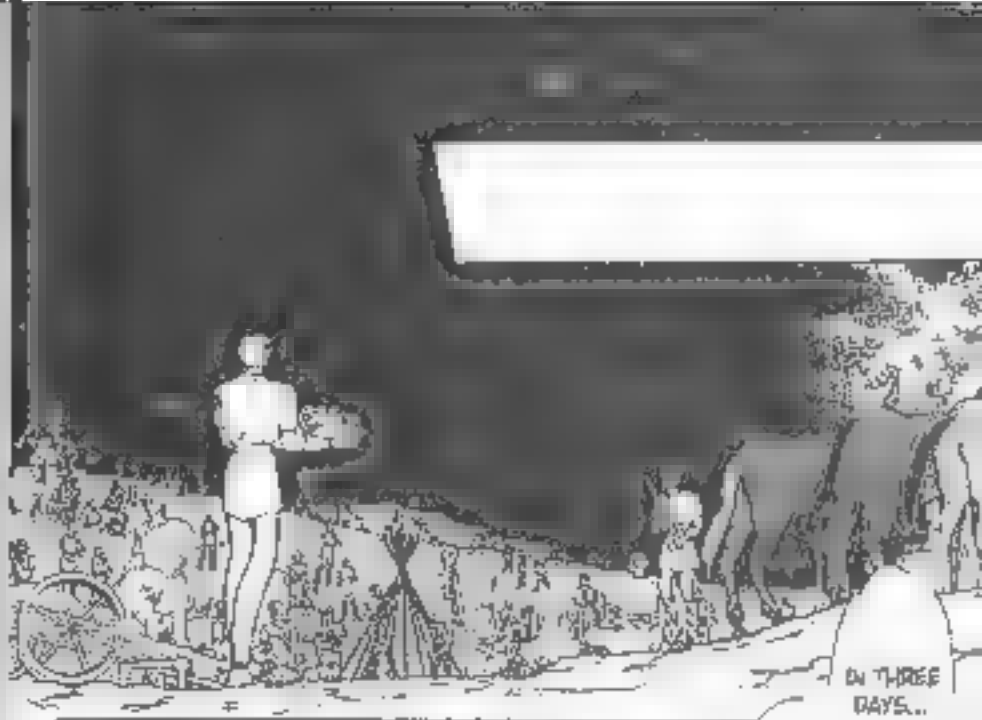
SO...
THE ARMY CERTAINLY IS MADE UP OF MANY KINDS OF PEOPLE

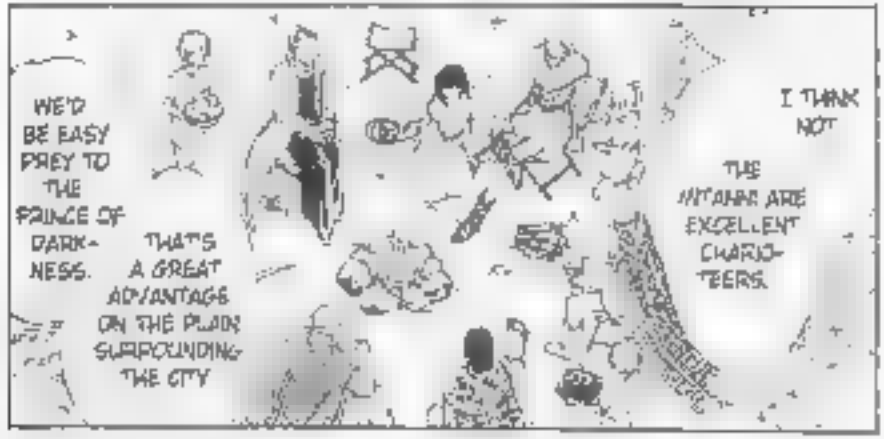
WOW! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL MAN
WHO IS HE?
BLOND HAIR AND BLUE EYES HE MUST BE FROM THE NORTH
HE IS A PRIEST HIS MAJESTY SENT HIM.
HE'S VERY HANDSOME, ISN'T HE?


..THESE CHARIOTS WON'T STOP US.
BUT ONCE WE GET IRON WEAPONS...

TO CAST IRON, WE MUST WAIT FOR THE SEASON OF WIND.
WHAT? WE'RE NOT ARMED WITH IRON YET?
THE SEASON OF FIRE WILL BE OVER SOON AND THE SEASON OF WIND WILL ARRIVE
STRONG WINDS ARE NEEDED TO MAKE FIRES HOT ENOUGH TO MELT IRON.

!!
YES IT COULD TAKE THREE MONTHS FOR OUR IRON WEAPONS TO ARRIVE
THAT MEANS A PROLONGED CONFLICT
THEN WE MUST LAY SIEGE TO THE CITY


IN THREE DAYS...
WILL YOU ATTACK THEM STRAIGHT AWAY?
WE'LL SURROUND MALATIA. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?


WE'D BE EASY PREY TO THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS.
THAT'S A GREAT ADVANTAGE ON THE PLAIN SURROUNDING THE CITY
I THINK NOT
THE MITANNI ARE EXCELLENT CHARIOTEERS.

I SHALL TAKE MALATIA...
IN FIVE DAYS.
PRINCE KAL?!

WE'LL NEVER FINISH THIS WAR IN TEN MONTHS!
THREE MONTHS TO CAPTURE MALATIA?
PRINCE KAL SAID HE WOULD FINISH THE AUTUMN IN TEN MONTHS SO THAT I COULD GO HOME! BUT IF IT TAKES THREE MONTHS JUST TO CAPTURE ONE CITY

AND WE WON'T NEED IRON, EITHER.
WE'RE NOT GOING TO LAY SIEGE TO MALATIA.

YOUR HIGHNESS?

WE SHALL RETURN TO HATTUSA I PROMISE
PERHAPS A BIT LESS.
IN TEN MONTHS TIME.
I DON'T INTEND TO.

PRINCE KAIL
I KNOW YOU SAID WE'D BE BACK IN HATTUSA IN TEN MONTHS, BUT DON'T KILL YOURSELF
JUST CAPTURING MALATIA IS GOING TO BE DIFFICULT
AND THE QUEEN WON'T GIVE UP ON THE DRAGON'S EYE WITHOUT A FIGHT
SO DON'T OVERWORK YOURSELF
I'M JUST
HAPPY AS LONG AS I CAN BE WITH KAL

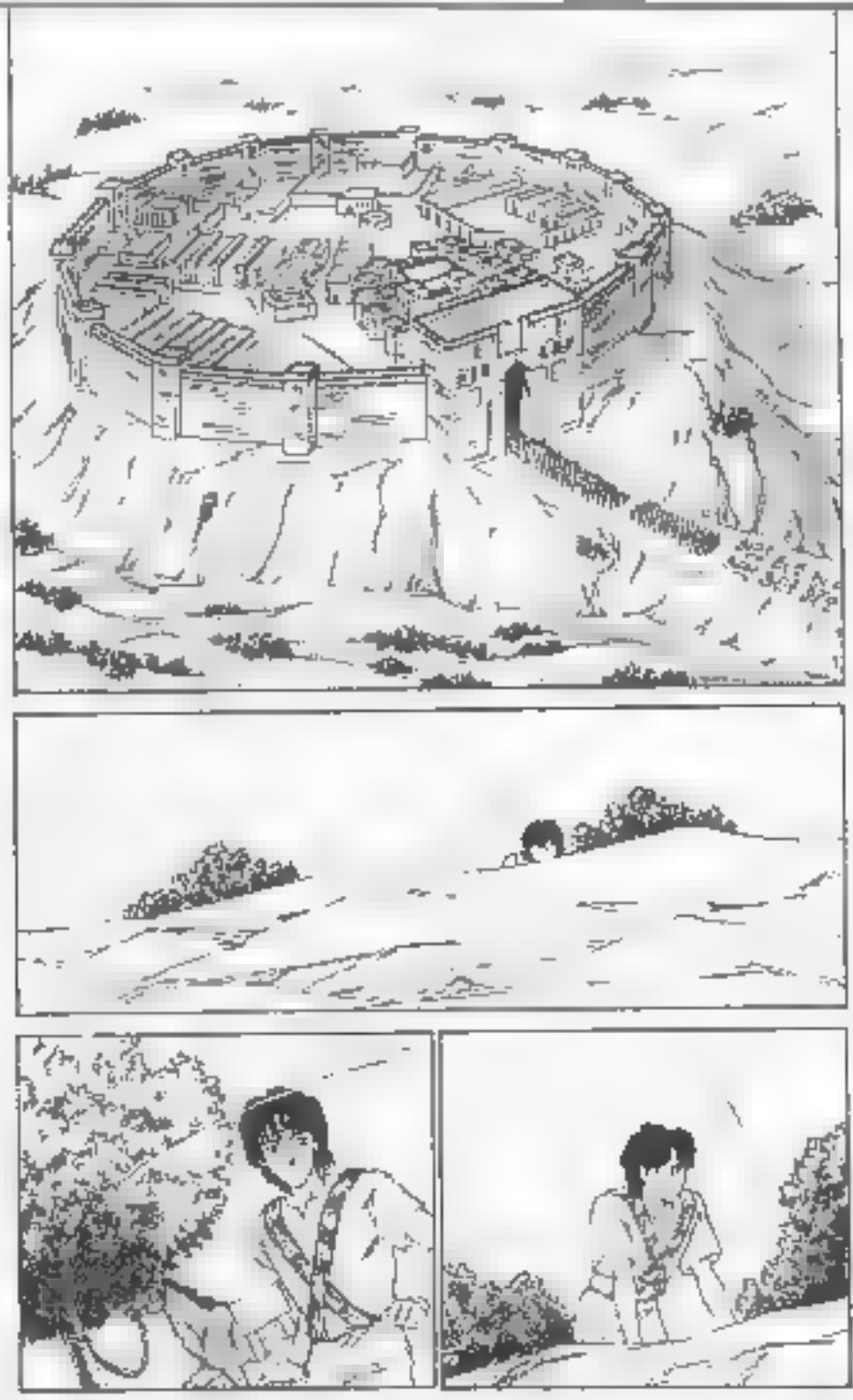
ZZZZ

ZZZZ
SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO BE WITH ME
I HOPE SHE DOESN'T THINK THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO BEING A CONCUBINE.
IT'S NOT SAFE TO SLEEP SO SOUNDLY, GIRL
I MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOU.

IT MUST BE THE SAME ARMY
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS. THE SAME BANNER FLEW OVER THOSE WE FOUGHT IN KIZUWATNA.
WHAT?
VERY WELL. I'LL GO THEN.
I WISH YOU GOOD FORTUNE IN WAR.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
DANA! I'LL LEAVE A THIRD OF THE SOLDIERS HERE.
I'M ENTRUSTING THE DEFENSE OF MALATIA TO YOU.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.

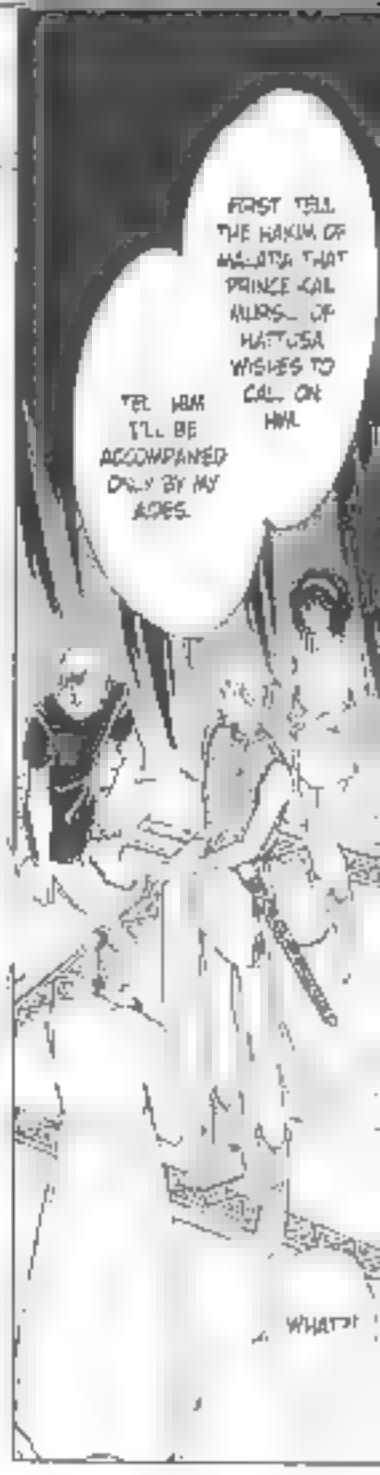
MALATIA
A HITTITE ARMY IS ONLY A DAY FROM HERE TO THE NORTH!
PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
THEY'VE FINALLY COME.
ARE YOU SURE IT'S THE HITTITES?

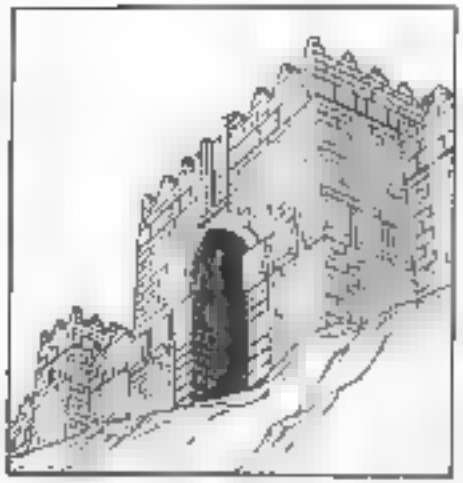
I THINK NOT THEY'RE HEADING SOUTH-WEST.
PRINCE KALI
OUR SCOUT REPORTS THAT THE MITANNI ARE ON THE MARCH.
WHAT? THEY KNOW WHERE WE ARE?
HAI I TOLD ZANNANZA TO LURE THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS OUT OF MALATIA AND LEAD THEM AROUND FOR FIVE DAYS.
YOU USED PRINCE ZANNANZA AS A DECOY?
I'M SURPRISED THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS FE... FOR IT
ZANNANZA'S ARMY FROM KANESH ARE THE ONES WHO DEFEATED THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS BEFORE.
HE WILL WANT REVENGE.
YOU'VE THOUGHT THIS OUT MOST CAREFULLY
YES.
NOW, IT IS OUR TURN TO MAKE SOME MOVES.

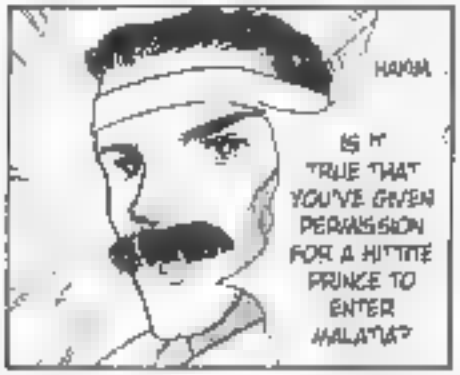


YOUR HIGHNESS!
ENOUGH! OBEY MY ORDERS.
TO TAKE MALATIA IN FIVE DAYS.
I MUST USE POTENT BAIT
IT'S FAR TOO PERILOUS!
HE'S RIGHT, PRINCE KAIL PLEASE DON'T GO.
PRINCE KAIL WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?
IT SOUNDS DANGEROUS.
YANK
PRINCE KAIL
PLEASE TAKE ME WITH YOU!
IF YOU DON'T TAKE ME ALONG, I WON'T LET YOU GO!

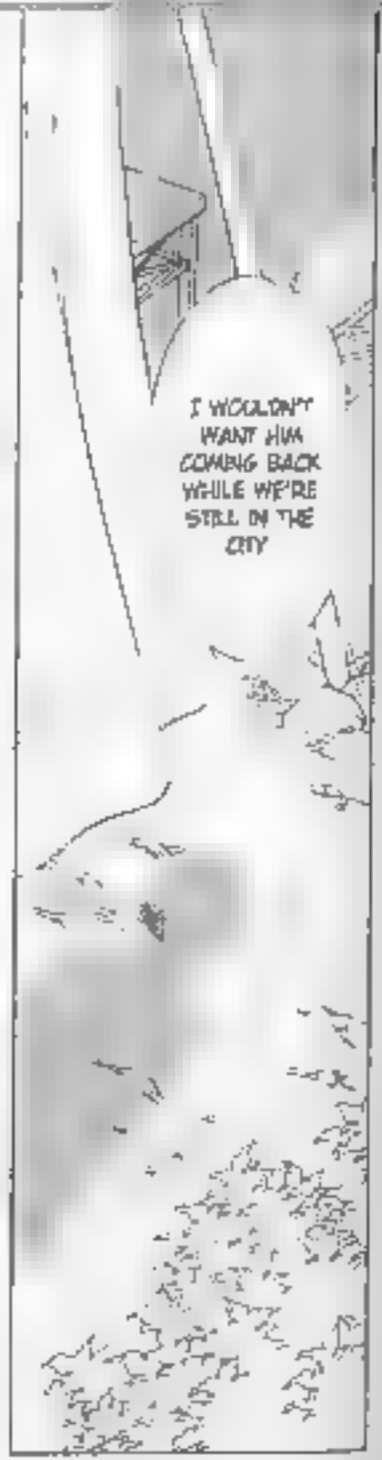
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS, YOUR HIGHNESS!
I DON'T THINK THEY'RE AWARE THAT WE KNOW MALATIA IS NOW A MITANNI BASE
SINCE THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS IS NOT IN MALATIA, THE HAKIM MAY RECEIVE ME TO AVOID A CONFRONTATION.
MALATIA IS AN INDEPENDENT CITY-STATE THAT BELONGS TO NO EMPIRE, BUT IF THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS HAS HIS TROOPS THERE, MALATIA IS IN FACT A MITANNI STRONGHOLD!


FIRST TELL THE HAKIM OF MALATIA THAT PRINCE KAIL HURRI OF HATTUSA WISHES TO CALL ON HIM.
TELL HIM I'LL BE ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY MY AIDES.
WHAT?!




HAKIM
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'VE GIVEN PERMISSION FOR A HITTITE PRINCE TO ENTER MALATYA?

WHAT ELSE COULD I DO, GENERAL DANA?
I COULD NOT TURN HIM AWAY WE HAVEN'T ENOUGH MEN TO RESIST HIM.
HIS REQUEST WAS VERY POLITE. HE ASKED ME TO LET JUST HIM AND A FEW AIDES VISIT
HE SAID HE'S ON HIS WAY TO BATTLE AT THE HEAD OF A GREAT ARMY


I WOULDN'T WANT HIM COMING BACK WHILE WE'RE STILL IN THE CITY

HA
WHAT?
OF COURSE, I AM TAKING YOU WITH ME.
YOU'RE THE HEROINE OF THIS PLAY.

SKRUFF
SKRUFF
JUST DO YOUR BEST

LET NO SCOUTS FOR THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS ENTER MALATYA.
AND KIKKULI!

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY
GREETINGS, HONORABLE HAKIM.
THE THIRD PRINCE OF THE HITTITE EMPIRE, KAIL MURSILI.
PLEASE
HAVE HIM COME ILBANI.
I NEED NO FORMALITY HERE.
YOUR HIGHNESS.
I WOULD LIKE TO GREET HIS HIGHNESS.
YOU MUST BE PRINCE KAIL'S AIDES.
IT IS MY GREAT HONOR TO MEET YOU.
YOUR HIGHNESS.

WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS KAIL MURSILI?
PRINCE MATTIWAZA SAYS HE'S A BRILLIANT GENERAL
I HEARD A RUMOR THAT KAIL, THOUGH HE IS NOT THE CROWN PRINCE, HAS A PALACE IN THE CAPITAL AND IS A BIT OF A PLAYBOY
NORMALLY HITTITE PRINCES, OTHER THAN THE CROWN PRINCE, SERVE AS MAYORS FOR THEIR IMPORTANT OUTLYING CITIES.
I DON'T KNOW
PERHAPS KING SUPPILULIUMA GAVE HIM AN IMPORTANT POSITION THAT KEEPS HIM IN THE CAPITAL
I ALSO HEARD THAT HE ENJOYS SPORTING WITH MANY PRINCESSES.
HMM
WE'LL LEARN THE TRUTH WHEN WE MEET HIM.

...

HEH
I'LL BE MAKING MYSELF AT HOME HERE FOR A WHILE...
...MAKIA.

WHAT COULD PRINCE KAIL BE PLANNING...
TO HAVE ME DRESSED LIKE THIS?

VIZ GRAPHIC NOVEL

$9.95 USA/$14.50 CAN

RED RIVER

Battle between the ancient empires of Hattusa and Mittani rages on, but Yuri is pulled away by Zannanza, Prince Kail's half-brother and his competitor for Yuri's affections. Kail, seeing evidence of another man's passion for Yuri, recoils with jealousy and refuses to let her back into the fray.

However, twenty-first century teen Yuri is thought to be good luck on the battlefield, and Kail relents, allowing Yuri to fight alongside him for the kingdom of Hattusa. Knowing that the time will soon come when he must send Yuri back to her own time, Kail struggles with his inner desire to keep her with him forever...

www.viz.com

This book reads from right to left.

OLDER TEENS

ISBN 1-59116-432-X

50995

9 781591 164326

00995

7 82009 18063 0

shojo

1

SCANED BY CHROKO.J EDITOR AKITO - SAMA